### Lithuania may pullout of USSR

VILNIUS, Soviet Union (R) — A member of the Lithuanian Communist Party's ruling polithure predicted Sanday that the republic would pull out of the Soviet Union this year. Rounnidas Quains, a member of the party's ruling body, said he believed the new Lithuanian Supreme Soviet (parliament) due to be elected Saturday, would amounte a return to the republic's pre-war independence before the end of this year. "The Supreme Soviet will take the decision on independence," he told Reuters in an interview with the Lithuanian capital. "It will happen this year without question." Orales also predicted the republic would send a delegation to the Kremille to negotiate the withdrawal of Soviet troops. Alginamias Ceknolis, a local newspaper editor and member of the Lithuanian Party's Central Committee, added: "I would gut it this way. They (the parliament) will confirm the re-establishment of the struction in 1940." Like neighborsing Estonia and Latvin, Lithuania won its independence in 1918 but was incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1940 after the Red Army moved in.

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

### Muberak, Gorbachev to discuss Jewish emigration

Volume 15 Number 4320

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y she replet sked how she fet e outpatient of sday to reason ASWAN, Egypt (R) — Egypt's President Hours Mubacak said Sunday his talks with Soviet leadess secretary. At er Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow next mouth would focus on Soviet is when the sel Jews settling in Israel and the Israeli-held territories. Arab states feat many of the Jewish emigrants, expected to reach half-a-million over the next few years, will be encouraged by Israel to settle in the occapied territories where the PLO wants to set up a Palestinian state; This is Arab land and a disputed issue... it is a grave mistake of Israel to act alone on this issue." Mubarak said. Moscow has called for a meeting of the U.N. Security Council to consider the issue, but it refuses to curb the Jewish

### Egyptian leader may visit Syria

ASWAN (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak plans to visit Syria later this month following the resumption of full diplomatic ties with Damascus last year, a senior official said Sunday. "Mubarak intends to fly to Damascus later this month, probably after the four-nation ACC summit in Amman," the official told Renters. The leaders of Egypt, Iran, Jordan and North Yemen are due to meet in Amman on Feb. 24, one year after they formed the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) as an economic

### Kuwaiti minister in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) - Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah agrived in Baghdad Sunday for talks ex-pected to include the exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel. The Kuwait News Agency said Saturday that Sheikh Sabah would discuss the 500.000 Soviet Jews over the next few years. Palestinians and Arab states fear the new arrivals will settle in the Israeli-occupied territories. Sheikh Sabah is due to have talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz. He will also deliver a verbal message to President Saddam Hussein from the Kuwaiti Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al Sabah, before leaving

### Aden, Sana'a discuss unity

ADEN (R) — The leaders of North and South Yemen Sunday discussed ways of overcoming obstacles to the planned merger of their countries in November, Radio Aden said. It said North Yemen's President Ali Abduliah Saleh arrived unexpectedly in the border town of Miciras for talks with Ali Salem Al Baidh, secretary-general of the ruling South Yemeni Socialist Party. reviewed measures to deal with any obstacle of difficulty facing the (unification) process," the radio quoted a joint statement as saying. "The Yemeni people are capable of confronting all powers that are working against unity," it said, giving no details. North Yemen and South Yemen signed a unification pact last November. South Yemen has since announced reforms to its Marxist political system. Joint committees have shuttled between Sana'a and Aden to begin implementing the accord, with both countries reporting the merger of several laws ind government departments. Unification is scheduled for November, after ratification by the legislative bodies of both

### Sudan reports 52 rebels killed

GNEWBG 16 KHARTOUM (R) -- Govern-E OR Sphill ment-sponsored forces in Sudan DIUMITAN have killed 52 southern rebels in two separate battles, state Radio Omdurman said. It said seven men from the Popular Porces, the name given by Sudan's military rulers to pro-government tribal milities, were killed and three wounded, it did not say where or when the battles took place. Rebels of the Sudan People's Liperation Army have been fighting the government in southern Sudan and adjacent areas since 1983 in a bid to end what they view as domination by the Arabised Muslim north.

# King warns U.S. on Jewish immigration

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein expressed concern Sunday that the United States is moving away from its historic policy of supporting Israeli withdrawal from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip just as new Soviet immigrants begin to stream into the Jewish state.

AMMAN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1990, RAJAB 24, 1416

The King voiced Arab concern about the projected influx of as many as 750,000 new immigrants to Ernel over the next five or six vears. In an interview Washington Post conducted by Caryle Murphy and Jackson Diehl, the King sharply criticised the U.S. approach to the immigration, a policy he said presented a direct threat to Jordan.

If Soviet immigrants move to the West Bank, King Hussein said, "it obviously means that these people are going to displace others," forcing a new wave of Palestinian emigration to Jordan.
With the arrivals of Soviet immigrants in West Bank settlements. the King said, the United States appeared to be softening its opposition to Israel's expansion into the territories.

"Now we are putting into question, it seems, the whole status of the occupied territories," King Hussein said. "I'm most distressed about it. If the basic formula for peace is territory for peace... then we're starting to hear about something entirely different

King Hussein said he was particularly upset by the United States abstention Priday during a vote on a resolution of the United Nations Human Rights Commission which called on Israel not to settle the immigrants in the

"Palestinian and Arab" territories that Israel occupied in the 1967 Mideast war. U.S. Ambassador Morris Abram said in explaining the abstention that the United States does not accept resolution's "prejudgement" of the territories' final status, which he said "can only be determined through negotiations."

'Is this authorised, is this United States' policy?" King Hussein said, pointing to a copy of Abram's statement. This is a direct contradiction to (U.N. Security Council Resolution) 242, which (concerns) inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force" and which Washington was long supported.

According to the Washington Post, U.S. officials said that Abram's statement, which called the settlements of Soviet immigrants "an obstacle to peace," did not contradict U.S. support for the formula of land for peace, nor did it represent a change in

King Hussein's criticism reflected his concern that the new wave of immigration to Israel will come at the expence of the stability of Jordan. "We are trying to attract the attention of the world to what is happening because it affects as directly," King Hussein

King Hussein urged the United



H.M. King Hassein

States to provide guaranties that Soviet immigrants "have not gone to replace others, to expel Palestinians from their national homeland,"Other Jordanian officials here said Jordan was hoping to persuade the Bush administration to formally declare Israeli settlements in the territories illegal and rescind the tax-exempt status of U.S. groups that finance

In its article, the Washington Post quoted "several officials and political observers here" as expressing scepticism that efforts by Arab leaders to stem the immigration to Israel, or even settlement in the West Bank, would yield results. "All the efforts on the Arab side wouldn't make any difference," the Post quoted one "prominent Palestinian" as

saying.

Asked about this observation. the King told the newspapers: "I believe what is happening in the world is that attention is focussed elsewhere at the expense of a very dangerous situation here."

## Jordan, Iraq to create joint air force training squadron formal announcement is ex-

AMMAN (AP) — A senior military official said Sunday that Jordan and Iraq have agreed to create a joint air force training squadron on advanced jet fighters to confront growing Israeli threats.

The squadron would help us face the threats of Israel against the Arab World," the official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press in a telephone inter-

Israel's air force vastly overmatches Jordan's fleet of fighters, but Iraq, which borders Jordan to the east, has a large and battle-trained air force built up during the 1980-88 war with Iran. It also has increased military cooperation with Egypt, the most populous Arab country and the only one to have made peace with

The official said His Majesty King Hussein and President Saddam Hussein recently reached tentative agreement on the squadron and said a pected soon. In the Arab World, air force squadross are usually made up

of 12 to 16 planes. The two leaders are due to attend a summit of the fournation Arab Cooperation Council, which also includes Egypt and North Yemen, start-

ing in Amman Saturday.

The summit comes amid efforts by King Hussein to reconcile Iraq and Syria to belp present a united stand against

On Thursday, Syria's state news agency published a mes-sage from Jordanian Parliament Speaker Sulciman Arar appealing for such a reconciliation. He urged revival of the long-dormant "eastern front" defence alliance of Iraq, Syria and Jordan. The Syrian agency rarely

publishes messages contrary to government policy.

The military official said the new agreement called for "joint training for air force personnel from both countries on new and advanced war-

He said those would include an . undisclosed number of French-built Mirage 2000 jet fighters. Iraq is negotiating a possible \$2.2-billion purchase of 50 such jets and a Jordanian

deal for them is in abeyance

because of financial difficul-

Both countries currently operate older Mirage F-1s, which military analysts say are outclassed by Israel's U.S.built F-16s.

"Jordan saw it was necessary to reorganise Arab military cooperation, especially during this period when Israeli threats are growing," the official said. He said those threats include

a planned mass migration of Soviet Jews to Israel and Palestinian territories it occuies, as well as repeated claims by Israeli leaders that Jordan

(Continued on page 3)

## Petra Bank employees to stage protest to press their demands

By Sama Atiyek Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The Jordan Banking and Insurance Employees Association (JBIEA) amounced Sunday that Petra Bank employees would stage a protest and stay away from work as of next Tuesday because their demands for improved working conditions and administrative reform were not met by the bank's government-

The association, representing Petra Bank employees, and the management com which took over the bank after an Economic Security Commit-tee (ESC) decision list August, could not reach agreement on the demands of the employees. JBIEA President Haidar Rashid said that the bank's

By Serene Halasa

AMMAN - The rainstorm that hit Jordan

Sunday was expected to last through Sunday

night, accompanied by thunderstorms, and snow-

fall over hilly areas, officials of the Jordan

Meteorology Department said Sunday. The aver-

age speed of the winds was recorded Sunday at

Heavy rain was reported before 2 p.m. Sunday

in the northern and central regions, and was estimated at 20 millimetres. "Today's and last

Thursday's rainfall was rated heaviest per hour,

Meteorologist Mazen Tarawneh said Sunday.

Amman streets were flooded with rainwater,

which caused heavy traffic congestions in some

areas, and left pedestrians stranded for quite a

clouded skies, and there will be scattered show-

ers," Meteorologist Nabil Kafawin said. Another

storm is expected to form over Cyprus and will affect the Kingdom next Thursday, he said.

"On Monday, it will be cold with partly

gusting from 65 to 100 kilometres-per-hour.

employees would stage a sit-in Tuesday in front of the Petra Bank's main offices in Wadi Sagra, and employees working at branches outside Amman would stay away from work until their demands are met. An announcement made by

the association and distributed to the employees said the nego-tistions had failed because the bank's management was trying to delay meeting the employees' demands by "postponing the meetings a number of times." The employees vowed to

According to Yousef Hurani.

strike three weeks ago if their calls, submitted in a petition signed by 500 of the 600 staff abers of the bank, were not accepted by the man The association and the ma arement met and negotiated twice in two weeks under the auspices of the minister of labour, Dr. Quecem Obeidat. an active member of the JBIEA, representatives of the bank's resuspement did not attend a meeting scheduled for Tuesday at the Labour Ministry. The two parties were supposed to complete a draft agreement and sign it at that meeting, Hurani said, adding that the management had referred the case to the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ).

But Jawad Anani, a member of the Petra Bank management committee, denied that the issue was referred to the CBJ. In a telephone interview with

the Jordan Times, Anani asserted that staging a strike at this time was not legitin because a 14-day notice is required before conducting a strike "according to the labour hw."

Rashid, on the other hand,

(Continued on page 3)

### The commando and helicopter base, 20 kilometres north of Until Saturday night, Aoun's Beirut, was the only army-held

Christian militiamen checked corpses and suspect shells in a captured airbase Sunday as their foe General Michel Aoun called

for talks and Beirut's civilians savoured a rare calm. The 12th ceasefire in 19 days of inter-Christian war held through

the day and many civilians attended church to pray for the more than 610 people who have been killed and 2,200 wounded. In a radio statement, Aoun said: "I bope the irregular situation in the liberated area will be

working for such a solution." This was the first time the general has taken the initiative in seeking talks since his troops and those of Lebanese Forces (LF)

rally was cancelled in South Afri-

ca's largest black township Sun-

At the other end of Johannes-

burg, several thousand residents

turned out for a march and a rally

in Alexandra township, but Afri-

can National Congress (ANC)

leaders who had previously said

they would address the crowds

The day passed off peacefully, with police keeping a low profile.

coordinating Mandela's program-

me during his first weeks of free-

dom told reporters Sunday that

there were no details of the ANC

An official of the committee

called off at the last minute.

ADMA BASE, Lebanon (R) — clashed on Jan. 31 in a battle for control of Lebanon's Christian

Geagea seizes base; truce holds

army had slowly asserted its mas-tery in saturation shelling and rocket attacks on selected LF strongholds followed by ground

But a 10-hour offensive by elite units of the LF, backed with tank, artillery and rocket fire, brought the militia its first victory. At dawn, scores of army commandos abandoned the Adma Base as a ceasefire took hold and moved some 15 kilometres away.

solved through dialogue... I am "The operation was very delicate and dangerous. Had anything gone wrong, there would have been a disaster," said Shaker Abn Suleiman, a member of a militia leader Samir Geagea first church mediation committee

escorting the commandos during the seven-hour evacuation.

pocket in LF territory. Inside the perimeter on a pine-clad hilltop village overlooking the port of Jounieh, LF militiamen drove a captured army tank, waving their flags and pointing to the army commando emblem. Several of Aoun's armoured

vehicles still smouldered and bodies were seen lying on the shell-cratered battleground.

"The fighting was very fierce. Look at what is left... this is bad, bad, bad," said an LF fighter who took part in the final push to

(Continued on page 3)

### Soweto rally cancelled as Mandela fever abates JOHANNESBURG (R) - A leader's prorgamme for the next few days. But he added that Mandela

day as Mandela fever subsided would fly to both Bloemfontein after a week of celebrating the and Durban next Sunday to release of the world's most address welcoming rallies there. tamous political prisoner. He is shortly afterwards ex-Nelson Mandela, freed last pected to travel to the ANC's Sunday under terms of President exile headquarters in Lusaka, F.W. de Klerk's bid to break Zambia, to meet colleagues who South Africa's political deadlock, have steered the movement dur-

spent a quiet day at home in Soweto black township outside inside South Africa. Johannesburg. South African newspapers He was visited by a few friends and the leader of a rival antireacted with amazement Sunday at the speed of development since De Klerk announced Manapartheid group, but the crowds dela's release and a lifting of the which until now put his house ANC ban in a landmark speech to under siege 24 hours a day had thinned to a trickle.

parliament on Feb. 2. "Astonishingly, it is no longer A rally in Soweto to celebrate Mandela's release was cancelled far-fetched to speculate that subat the last minute because of stantive talks could be under way organisational problems, marwithin months," the Sunday Times, South Africa's biggest cir-culation newspaper, said in an shals said. Fewer than 100 people had arrived at the stadium when the cancellation was announced.

ing a 30-year ban on its activities

editorial. The ANC announced Friday it wanted to send a semor delegation to Cape Town soon to start "talks about talks" with De Klerk to clear the final obstacles to

negotiation. De Klerk is expected to give his greement to the ANC visit early week.

The ANC demands that South Africa lift a three-year state of emergency and release all political prisoners before they will sit

(Continued on page 3)

## Bahrain, **Emirates** discuss summit

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) The rulers of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates conferred Sunday amid signs the Arab World is delaying a decision on convening a special summit that would discuss the influx of Soviet Jews into Israel.

UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan arrived Saturday from a week-long visit to Egypt where he advocated holding the summit.

After his talks Sunday with the Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, the Gulf News Agency said the two discus-sed Arab issues in talks "characterised by frankness and under-

Sources said the prospects of a summit and the subjects it would tackle, along with the no-peace no-war situation in the Gulf region, were top issues in the Bahrain talks.

The two countries are grouped with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance which coordinates policy on regional, Arab and internaRain yesterday heaviest per hour so far According to Colonel Hisham Ensour, director of public relations at the Civil Defence Department, "sandstorms accompanied by strong winds were reported Sunday on the desert highway between Qatraneh and Husseinieh leading to poor visibility and causing minor accidents." Two trailors were involved in an accident on the desert highway and one of the drivers was taken to Karak hospital after suffering minor injuries. Ensour warned drivers to slow down during bad weather, in order to decrease the number of

traffic accidents.

Asked about the impact of Sunday's heavy rain on Jordan's water reserves, government officials said it was too early to comment, but Jordan Valley Director General Mohammad Bani Hani said: "The rain is hardly enough to meet public demand during summertime."

Earlier, officials of the Ministry of Water and

Irrigation told the Jordan Times that so far this season the water reservoirs behind the Kingdom's dams had collected only 46 per cent of their total capacity of the dams, with 34 million cubic metres in the King Talal Dam which has a capacity to hold 82 million cubic metres.

## Israelis shoot dead **Palestinian** schoolgirl in Nablus

NABLUS, West Bank (R) -Israelis shot dead a 17-year-old Palestinian schoolgirl Sunday after their cars were stoned in the occupied West Bank city of Nabhas, residents said.

They identified the dead girl as Sawsan Shakhshir and said the vehicles involved belonged to Israeli settlers and the army. The army said it was checking the

The killing raised the toll in the 26-month-old Palestinian uprising to 624 Arabs killed by Israelis. The army earlier reported two unidentified bodies were found in Nablus. One apparently died of natural causes but the other has been shot several times.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, two Palestinians were wounded by army gunfire during clashes. Arab sources said. A 23-year-old man suffered a wound in the face and a 13-year-old boy was hit in the head and the arm.

### Sharon quits cabinet post

In a separate development, hardline cabinet minister Ariel Sharon formally quit the govern-ment Sunday and launched a campaign against proposed Israeli-Palestinian peace talks that he said "threatened the Jewish state."

"I don't remember as dangerous a situation as we are facing now," Sharon, an outspoken advocate of force, told a news conference a few hours after ending a 13-year ministerial career.

Although he said his priority was to halt Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's cautious steps toward peace talks, he also made clear his intention was to seek the leadership of the country. "I decided to leave my office as

a result of the fact I felt I could not struggle anyone about several major issues that I feel are at stake," Sharon said.

The 61-year-old trade and industry minister said Shamir's moves towards negotiations threatened Israel's existence by questioning its hold over occupied Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, occupied during the 1967 Middle East war.

Instead, Sharon gave his own proposals, which included Western pressure on Arab states to suppress the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and a cut in arms supplies to Israel's adver-

He called for opening the border with Jordan, but conceded Jordan's views were unknown, Sharon, who ruthlessly pacified the Gaza Strip in the 1970s, repeated his view that Gaza refugee camps should be razed and the occupants resettled.

But Sharon, who had promised to crush the 26-month-old Palestinian uprising if made defence minister, said the West Bank and the Gaza Strip must remain under Israeli control. Sharon first announced he

would step down six days ago, turning a meeting of the Likud Party into chaos and providing a

(Continued on page 3)

## **Bonn ministers at odds over NATO role**

WEST BERLIN (AP) - A dispute over reunification surfaced Sunday in the West German government, with Defence and Foreign Ministry officials at odds over the role NATO should play in a

united Germany.

The Soviet Union has said it opposes NATO membership for a united Germany and wants a reduction in the reunited Germany's armed forces.

Defence Ministry officials, speaking Sunday on the condition of anonymity, stressed that NATO's security umbrella should extend over what is now East German territory once the two countries are united.

Such a proposal was made Friday by Defence Minister Gerhard

But Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher was "deeply disappointed" by Stoltenberg's remarks, said Foreign Ministry officials on condition of anony-

In a radio interview Saturday, Genscher ruled out extending NATO's territory into what is now East Germany.

East Germany is a key part of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact lliance and West Germany is part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). A compromise on the future strategic lignment of a single Germany is considered necessary for the superpowers to accept a final reuni-

cation formula. East Germans, who ousted their hard-line Communist regime last year, are to hold their first free elections in the country's 41-year history on March 18. West German officials say reunification negotiations likely will

begin in earnest after the bal-loting. Genscher believes Stoltenberg's suggestions could hinder upcoming talks on German unification with the Soviet Union, United States, Britain and

France, Foreign Ministry officials said. Genscher intends to bring up the matter at a cabinet meeting next week, they said. News reports Saturday said

Chancellor Helmut Kohl already had made two important conces sions to the Kremlin on reunifica-

tion. The Bonn government denied the reports.

Valentin Falin, a top adviser to elections on March 18."

bachev, was quoted as saying in Der Spiegel magazine that a united Germany must retain East Germany's trade commitments to the Soviet Union.

Soviet President Mikhail Gor-

"The German Democratic Republic must carry out its duties and obligations to the Warsaw Pact even after the parliamentary



# Aoun's troops take over E. Beirut residential districts

By Donna Abu-Nasr The Associated Press BEIRUT (AP) - Glass shards crunched underfoot as Red Cross workers removed the body of a Lebanese Forces fighter crushed by a burned-out tank against the wall of a demolished building in Christ-

ian east Beirut, Gen. Michel Aoun's soldiers have warned civilians not to touch corpses, saying some of them were booby-trapped by the fleeing Lebanese Forces militiamen led by rival Christian warlord Samir Geagea.

Two other Red Cross workers, wearing bright orange uniforms, trudged in a pile of a garbage near the Soviet-made T-54 tank as they tried to slip a metal stretcher under the body of a second militiaman.

"We found the lower part of the body near the garbage. The upper part was 10 metres away," said one Red Cross worker as he waved off swarm-

Apparently, the tank was hit by a shell as the Lebanese Forces militiamen jumped out. The errant tank, its driver wounded, resumed the militia-

man against the wall.

Parents shooed away youngs ters watching the scene in the Furn Al Shubbak section of east Beirut.

"Where are the other two bodies?" one harried rescner asked his colleague. "There were four militiamen in the

Furn Al Shubbak and the neighbouring district Ein Al manch Saturday, a day after Aoun's soldiers arrested both districts from Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces after

At least 75 people were killed at 54 wounded in the attack sing the low-income residential neighbourhoods in east

By police count, more than 600 people have been killed and more than 1,800 wounded in the 18-day-old struggle for mastery of the 800-squarekilometre Christian enclave between Aoun's 19,000 troops and Geagen's forces, made up of 6,000 militiamen and 10,000

Ein Al Rummanch and Furn Al Shubbak looked as if it struck by a monstrous earthstruck by a mouseupe quake after the onslaught by Aoun's predominantly Sunni Muslim "Mukafaka," or spe-

cial corps.

An acrid stench in incinerated steel mingled with the smell of

Some of Kin Al Rummauch's densely populated narrow mbled junkyards piled with burned cars, com-pressed into thin sheets by tanks that had crushed them.

The 1,500-metre long Furn Al Shubbak commercial thoroughfare looked like a piece of ghed land, strewn with debris, pieces of furniture and window shutters that filled cra-

ing mines planted by Geagea's men around the militia's posts and barracks, now decorated with Aoun posters and the

Lebanese flag. A soldier who lost his left eye in the latest clashes was standing guard at the entrance to one of the Lebanese Forces barracks in Ein Al Russmaneh. "There's a booby-trapped backgammon board here. No

hest route to a safe zone.

one can go in. We are waiting for the suppers," he said. The troops, stationed in nearly every street in the two areas, warned civilians against toucking suspicious looking ch-

A Christian woman in east Beirut seeks direction from troops for the

"The dirty militiamen have even booby-trapped corpses," said one soldier standing next to a car piled with mines the army had removed from the

edges of Furn Al Shubbak.
"We didn't enjoy fighting

A Christmas tree lay askew in the corner of another

them but we wanted to liberate

our areas from these flithy peo-

ple. They left us no other choice," said another soldier.

now before we attack them in

Ashrafiyeh." he added.

"We are taking a small rest

Ashrafiyeh is one of the last

two pockets of the Lebenese

Forces in east Beirut. The other

one is the low-income district of

Lebanese Forces post where Acom troops sat around hoxes of 120mm meeter room Reporters and photoers were not allowed to go

e to the Kassardiian berracks, the Lebenese Forces' main barracks in the area, "be-cause the area around it is still being cleared of mines."

Tanks and armoured person-nel carriers rumbled through the dusty streets of Kin Al ch and Furn Al Shubbak as people emerged from bunkers to take stock of the

damage and stockpile food.

Many threw rice on Aoun's troops from belcomies strung with Lebanese flags as they shouted, "long live the army.

"We have finally seen light," said housewife Mary Shanunas. "The Lebanese Forces was a germ that was squashed by the army. May God safeguard the army and the General (Aoun). Pm ready to die for him."

Some young women were balcony overlooki burned Lebanese Forces armoured personnel carrier that was blocking the narrow allevway.

"We lived 17 days underground. It's so good to breathe fresh air again," shouted one of

Workers were singing as they collected garbage aext to a red Volkswagen in which lay a body wrapped in a plastic bag. The wife of a Lebanese Forces militiaman, Pierre Helou, was seen sobbing as she hugged her two children in Ein

"My poor children. What has happened to your father?"

# Kabul to block rebel bid to send arms to Tajikistan

KABUL (Agencies) — Afghan President Najibullah said Sunday his government had taken action to prevent rebels from smuggling arms to Muslims in the troubled neighbouring Soviet region of Tajikistan.

"We have taken measures. If anyone tries to sneak weapons into the Soviet Union, we have made preparations to stop them. We would never permit such a thing to happen," he told repor-

Najibullah did not detail what measures would be taken to stop Mujahideen rebels, suspected of trying to stir Muslim revolt in Soviet Central Asia, from getting arms to Tajikistan, where 18 peo-ple have been killed in recent

nots. The Muiahideen rebels have been fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government for 11 years. Najibullah charged Saturday that the rebels are thwarting peace efforts in Afghanistan by making his resignation a precondition for negotiations.

"The extremist groups have put forward this proposal as a pretext for continued war or as an obstacle to a solution of Afghanistan's problems," he said at a

news conference. Najibullah the former head of the dreaded Khad secret police, said his peace plans have been repeatedly rejected by the U.S.backed rebels, known as the Mujahideen, or Islamic holy war-

On Thursday, during an address to the nation on the eve of the first anniversary of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, Najibullah offered the Mujahideen a six-month ceasefire.

So far the rebels have rejected all ceasefires offered by the Soviet-backed Kabul government and have declined to negotiate with Najibullah and his People's Democratic Party of Afghanis-

tan. They insist he must step down first. During the news conference, Najibullah blamed the 12-yearold civil war on the "unreconciliability of the various extremist groups in Afghanistan --- against

the interests or to the neglect of

Afghan people, by creating obstacles to the peace process. Najibullah, who took office in 1986, is one of four successive Soviet-backed leaders to run Afghanistan through a series of internal party coups and power struggles. Soviet troops entered Afghanistan in December 1979 to prop up the government and started withdrawing in May 1988

under a U.N.-sponsored accord. Soviet leaders say their last soldier crossed the border back to the Soviet Union on Feb. 15,

Najibullah speaking in his native Dari language through an interpreter, answered questions from foreign reporters for more than an hour at the Foreign

He reiterated his Feb. 15 call for new parliamentary elections and said he would accept the results, even if they went against

The Mujahideen "consistently claim they control the majority of land in Afghanistan and the majority of the people are with them. If that is so, let's allow free elections and see," he said. He said one year of independ-

ence from Soviet armed support

was evidence of his government's strength and stability, while the opposition has not only lost credibility in Afghanistan, but also in world public opinion."

Western observers had predicted that the Pakistan-based 1 U.S.-backed rebels would over-" run government troops after the Soviet withdrawal, but Najibullah

has kept the cities under his control during the past year. The rebel leadership is concentrated in the hands of seven Afghan groups which range from Islamic fundamentalists to Western-oriented royalism.

The United States uses Pakistan as the conduit to funnel about \$500 million worth of military aid to the rebels each year.

"If we want peace in Afghanistan, arms stockpiles should be evacuated from the republic of Afghanistan under the supervision of the United Nations," Najiballah said.

"If such a policy were im-plemented, I believe it would not lead to the Balkanisation of Afghanistan, but to strengthening and unity of the country," he

Meanwhile a rebel alliance spokesman said Saturday the Iran-based Afghan rebei alliance would take a separate course if a rebel government based in Pakistan went ahead with its election

Karim Khalili told a news conference the rebel "Afghan in-terim government" (AIG) should dissolve itself and its seven component parties of majority Senni: Muslims should talk with the Iran-based group to reach an agreed election formula.

### Qadhafi arrives for talks with Mubarak

ASWAN, Egypt (R) — Egypt and the tone of the preparations gave Libyan leader Muammar contrasted sharply with a low-key reception for Qadhafi at the day, shrugging off the caution that previously marked a rapprochement between the longtime foes.

Nubian dancers and children in Pharaonic headress greeted Qadhafi on his arrival in Aswan, his second visit to Egypt since a breakthrough meeting with President Hosni Mubarak in Morocco in May.

The leaders, patching up a quarrel caused partiy by Egypt's 1979 peace treaty with Israel, were due to drive 25 kilometres in an open motorcade to the Cataract Hotel by the Nile.

Sniffer dogs and security men

TUNIS: (AP) — PLO Chairman

Yasser Arafat promised the sister

of the longest-held Western hos-

tage in Lebanon to do his "very

best" to help free all 18 captives

The Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation leader met for an hour

with Peggy Say, sister of Terry Anderson, chief Middle East cor-

respondent for the Associated

Arafat welcomed Mrs. Say in

They ate lunch and later discus-

sed what Arafat called the

"tragedy of the hostages held in

"I am doing my very best to get the hostages released," he told Mrs. Say. "I shall continue to do

this because I consider it my duty.

With the fanatical groups holding

them, it is not an easy task. But I

promise you that I will do my

Mrs. Say arrived in Tunis Fri-

day to appeal to Arafat to use his

the dining room of his residence

in the Tunisian capital, where the

PLO has its headquarters.

held there.

Lebanon.

Mediterranean town of Mersa Metruh in October.

Officials said only that the summit would follow others in seeking to improve relations. Mubarak has visited Libya twice since Ministers of both countries are

expected to meet separately to discuss cooperation in industry and agriculture, a senior Egyptian official told Reuters. Egyptian Minister of State for Military Prodution Gamal Ibrahim will be among them, but

military cooperation was planned.

influence to obtain freedom for

Anderson, who was kidnapped

on March 16, 1985 in Beirut and

is believe held by Shi'ite Muslim

extremists with close ties to Iran.

Mrs. Say also pleaded the cause for the other 17 Western

Arafat told Mrs. Say that be

had no contact with those holding

the hostages and that the only

person who could be expected to

help was President Hashemi Raf-

present because of the power

struggle inside the Iranian lead-

ership," Arafat said. "If Rafsan-

jani alone were in power, it

ing Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar

Mohtashemi, are relatively ex-

treme and Rafsanjani encounters

their opposition in most dealings

But Arafat insisted that the

solution to the ongoing captivity

lay in Iran, saying "no person in Lebanon is able to solve this

with the West, Arafat said.

Other Iranian leaders, includ-

Even he is blocked for the

Arafat promises to help free

all 18 hostages in Lebanon

sanjani of Iran.

would be very easy."

there was no indication whether

only Arab country which had not resumed diplomatic ties with Egypt, the official said: "As you know they have no embassies and do not believe in diplomatic ties." Relations between Cairo and

> the early 1970s. The two fought a brief border war in 1977. The United States, Egypt's main financial donor, has privately expressed concern at Cairo's speedy normalisation of ties with

Tripoli have been erratic since

Qadhafi was due to be received in a specially-built tent at the airport in deference to his taste for desert life.

Aswan is a stronghold of followers of the late Socialist President Gamal Abdul Nasser, much dmired by Oadhaft

He agreed "with pleasure" to accept letters to the hostages car-

ried by Mrs. Say and assured her

he would try to relay them to the

"You have my sincere grati-tude for your efforts," Mrs. Say

Mrs. Say is undertaking a

"humanitarian pilgrimage" that

has already taken her to meet

with U.N. Secretary General

Javier Perez de Cuellar in New

York, Pope John Paul II in

Rome, leaders of the European

Parliament in Strasbourg, France, and top officials of the Interna-

tional Committee of the Red

her trip Monday to Paris to meet

with UNESCO Director General

Federico Mayor, then to Damas-

cus to confer with Syrian Foriegn

Minister Farouk Al Sharaa and

later Canterbury, England to

meet with Anglican Archbishop

She is scheduled to contienue

Cross in Geneva.

Robert Runcie.

told the Palestinian leader.

addresses

### MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEF

### Saudi papers attack Iran

NICOSIA (R) - Saudi Arabian newspapers Sunday fiercely attacked the Iranian leadership, calling it intellectually retarded and a symbol of terrorism. "Eleven years have passed since the Iranian regime came to power led by (Ayatoliah Ruhollah) Khomeini and the regime is still as bloody as when it first started...this regime has become a symbol of intellectual retardation and terrorism." Al Jazira said.

### ICO asks U.K. to help stop Jewish influx

NICOSIA (R) — The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has asked Britain to do what it can to halt Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel, the Saudi Press Agency said. Hamid Al Ghabed, general secretary of the 46-member body, made the request at a meeting Saturday with Alan Munro, Britain's ambassador to Saudi Arabia. "The OIC is concerned over the influx of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine and the Israeli government's intention to settle them in occupied Palestinian territories," the agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted Ghabed as saying. He asked Britain, as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, to intervene to try to halt the exodus. About 5,000 Soviet Jews a month are arriving in Israel and hundreds of thousands are expected in the next few years. Independent reports say several hundred have settled in the Israeli-occupied. areas, scene of a 26-month Palestinian uprising.

### S.Yemen U.S. stop talks over ties

ABU DHABI (R) — Kuwaiti-mediated talks between the United States and South Yemen about a resumption of diplomatic ties have stopped, South Yemen's foreign minister was quoted Sunday as saying. Abdul Aziz Al Dali told the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Ittihad his country was not against normalised relations but would not accept any imposed conditions. He did not say what conditions he meant but added: "We reject talk that South Yemen supports terrorism." South Yemen last November signed a pact to merge with North Yemen and has announced sweeping reforms to its Marxist political system. It broke ties with Washington one year after gaining independence from Britain in 1968.

### iraq sets trial date for 2 foreigners

BAGHDAD (AP) — A London-based journalist for the weekly the Observer and a British nurse will go on trial Feb. 26 on spying charges, a British embassy official has said. The official, who spoke Saturday on condition of not being identified further, said Iraman-born reporter Farzad Bazoft and the nurse, Daphne Parish, will be tried by the Revolutionary Court. The court specialises in cases of "anti-state activities." The two are charged under article 158 of the Iraqi penal code with "hostile acts against Iraq," with death, or life imprisonment as the maximum penalty. Bazoft, 31, who carries an Iranian passport and has the right of residence in Britain, was traveling on British documents when he disappeared in September. It was later established that he was detained while investigating reports that an explosion at a military plant south of Baghdad may have killed as many as 700 people.

## PFLP urges escalation of intifada

NICOSIA (R) — The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) has called on Palestinians to take up arms against Israel within the occupied territories and across the borders of the Jewish state.

The Damascus-based PFLP also criticised the policies of the PLO-backed leadership of the uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gazz Strip and said the front would not attend proposed Palestinjan-Israeli peace talks.

"We in the PFLP oppose Israeli-Palestinian talks scheduled to take place in Cairo and will not attend them," it said in a statement received by Renters in Cyprus Sunday.

"What is needed is more strug-gle through escalating the intifada (uprising), backing it with fire power... providing it with money and supporting it with guerrilla operations across Arab borders," the statement said.

The statement, dated Feb. 15. criticised the Unified Leadership of the uprising which groups ma-jor Palestinian factions. The leadership has backed the proposed Israeli-Palestinian talks

in Cairo although this was a matter which should be left to the PLO, the statement said. Egypt and the United States say they are trying to arrange the first-ever Israeli-Palestinian

peace talks in Cairo on the future

of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. But the efforts have been bogged down over the agenda of the talks and who should represent

Israel rejected any PLO role in the talks, while the organisation insists that it should name the Palestinians representatives.

Diplomats say the PLO is growing increasingly divided on how to bring about Middle East

The PFLP statement said the PLO's Central Council had "spe-

lead to elections," a reference to Israeli proposals for elections in the occupied territories. "We leave this matter to the Executive Committee of the PLO to give its stand on it," it said.

cially put the condition that the PLO should form the Palestinian

delegation and that the Cairo

talks would only be a gate leading

Washington, Cairo and Tel

to an international conference.

Aviv want the Cairo meeting to

The PFLP, a PLO member, has always opposed what it see as conciliatory policies of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat but says it remains a loyal opposition within the ranks of the PLO. The statement also criticised what it called "those who consid-

er public relations and signing forms with Israelis the central point of the issue rather than escalating resistance to Israeli occupation through the intifada (uprising)."

# Ethiopia urges fight 'to the bitter end'

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopian President Mengistn Haile Mariam has called on his country's armed forces to fight "to the bitter end" against Eritrean rebels who have launched largescale attacks in northern Ethiopia in the past 10 days.

Ethiopia denies a claim by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) that its rebels have captured the Red Sea port of Massawa, but says fierce fighting is going on there.

In an unusual move, Mengistu went on radio and television Saturday night to address the armed forces. He told the soldiers there was no alternative but to fight until a decisive victory over the rebels was won.

He said the EPLF offensive the latest in a civil war that has been raging in the region since 1962 — was aimed at placing Massawa under the control of the rebels, "foreign masters." He did

not elaborate, but the mainly Muslim Eritreans have for many vears received support from countries in the Middle East. "For Ethiopia, long regarded as the symbol of the freedom and

integrity of the black peoples of the world, losing Massawa would amount to the defeat and the shame of the present generation," Mengistu said.

"There is no choice but for the men in uniform and the people's militia to fight the enemy to the bitter end...Ethiopia is not alone at this hour of trial and tribulation."

Mengistu accused the rebels of wantonly destroying food donated by the international community which has been shipped to Massawa for distribution to famine victims in northern

Ethiopia. "In an unparalleled demonstration of its inhuman acts, the enemy is destroying food and

other supplies accimulated under an arrangement worked out between the government and local church-based relief organisations to help compatriots threatened with starvation " he said with starvation," he said.

Aid workers have confirmed that the flow of food from Massawa to Asmara, the Eritrean capital, has stopped. But they said it was not clear whether Massawa Port, which is situated on an island connected to the mainland by a causeway, had fallen to the

Canada, in a statement sent to the Ethiopian government, has accused the EPLF of disrupting the flow of relief supplies to famine victims.

Officials said Canadian Foreign Minister Monique Landry had expressed concern over the latest fighting, and had called on the international community to step up efforts to urge both sides to negotiate for peace.

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

.... Kuwait (KU)
. Bucharest (RO)
..... Tripoli (LN)
.... Baghelad (AF)
..... Paris (AF)

### JOŽDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

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PRAYER TERES

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### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The cold front which affected the country will abate gradually, thus it will be partly cloudy and relatively lot with exnected scattered showers:

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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# **EMERGENCIES** Civil Defence Departs

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# Princess Haya Hospital .... (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER

**QUEEN ALIA** 

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified. Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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## **Ceramics firm begins** third expansion project

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den and Turkey.

amounts to JD 2 million, accord-

Vidence of his Oueen Noor Sanday inaugurated of his Oueen Noor Sanday inaugurated of his and subject the third expansion project of the osition has he do pany (JCIC) in Zarqa and invited public has spected work on the first and intern observed in the second expansion projects. If that his duction is marketed in the King-backed telek adom while the rest is exported to some internal to be a second expansion projects. ZARQA (Petra) — Her Majesty
Queen Noor Sunday inaugurated
200,000 tomics of sanitary ware
products.

soverment bedom while the rest is capeable it withdrawal be according to the company man-kept the

kept the dis ager.

tol during the Property of the project and the right land type of products to be produced in the land type of products to be produced in fundamental project is set on 2,400 square oriented trylin metres at a total cost of JD 200,000.

he United State: According to the manager, the 200,000.

as the conduit of according to the manager, the million worth of produces nearly 60,000 tonnes of the robels each peramic products annually.

If we want peat: He said the first and second amus stocked, expansion projects together procused from the place 360,000 tonnes of tiles and thanistan under the place 360,000 tonnes of tiles and

chanistan under the chance 360,000 months and the United No.

"If such a point mented, I believe is ocial implications of the Bakes ocial implication displacement of the Bakes ocial implication displacement. ghanistan, but he population displacement

Meanwhile a ng MMAN (J.T.) — A study okesman sid & roup on "the social implications in-based Aigha of population displacement and sald take a separa esettlement" will be held at the bel government must be near as the bel government must be dead as the second of the se rence the relegious armouk University. The study tim government proup comes as the result of a ssolve itself and a car-long joint collaboration be-

nent parties of mi ween Dr. Setency Shami of the luslims should in thropology section of the instian-based group inte and Dr. Huda Zurayk, greed election in anior representative of the opulation Council Regional liftice for the Middle East and lorth Africa which is based in lairo. Participants in the sandy group ially put the maker social scientists of different LO should for toecialisations from Egypt. ielegation and taudan, Morocco, Saudi Arabis,

alks would only knight rain, Omen, Palestine, Jor-

io an international

Aviv want the Car

lead to elections," Li

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d negotiate for pre-

The working papers will pro-sent esse-studies of particular ex-amples of displacement in the Middle East including those resulting from natural disasters, political conflict and development projects, the focus being on the social and economic results of such displacement on the local and national level. The discussions will also deal with the role of various governmental and international agencies in determining the features of such displace ment as well as the processes of resettlement that accompany

The participants in the study group will visit a number of development projects in Jordan during their stay as well as some touristic and archaeological sites.

### **NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF**

### the occupied terms ACC summit preparations reviewed

Executive Comming MMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Sunday to give its stan unhaired a meeting of a special committee charged with preparing
The PFLP, a flor Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) summit, which will start in has always opposed mman Saturday, Feb. 24. The meeting reviewed final aspects of as contiliatory pithese preparations and arrangements. A committee statement said Chairman Yassa khe meeting would be an "expression of deep faith in and an it remains a loyal member of the principles and objectives of the ACC in the in the ranks of its surrent critical stage through which the Arab states are passing."

what it called the afeguard national Arab interests and serve the Arab Nation's er public relation bjectives, it said.

## forms with lazz Religious celebration planned

escalating research occupation three AMMAN (J.T.) The Ministry of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs mounced Sunday a major religious celebration which would be jeid in Amman Thursday in observance of Al Israa Wal Miraj. A ninistry statement said the celebration would be held at the King bitter (Abdullah Martyr's Mosque at Abdali where several prominent

ligious leaders, including Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs thi Faqir, would address the worshippers. Thursday has been other supplies and eclared a public holiday.

### an arrangement & tween the starga Basin project progress reviewed

to help compare, MMAN (Petra) - The ministers of agriculture and planning and with starvator, inectors of the funds and banks financing the JD 32 million Zarga. Aid works asin project Sunday discussed progress of work at the project, that the flow districts started in 1987. The project, covering an area of 825,000 wa to Asmara be unums, aims to prevent soil erosion and enhance the land's al. has stopped broductivity in addition to alleviating deposits at the King Talal al. 100 der wam reservoirs. The project is being financed by the government. Port, which is the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Kuwaiti island connected and for Economic Development, the Sandi Fund for Developisland country, bent, the Islamic DevelopmentBank and a West German Technicaid agency.

## Canada. # ' abour Ministry, bakers sign agreement

accused the EM MMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and the Baker's the flow of sociation Sunday signed an across and the Baker's accused the End the flow of issociation Sunday signed an agreement under which the ministry famine with in-lordamans employed by its members of Labour and the Baker's famine within in-lordamans employed by its members. Officials self an gave me association a grace period to obtain work permits for Officials self in-Jordanians employed by its members. The ministry gave the Minister More sociation a grace period ending on June to rectify the situation of expressed compets workers in accordance with the Labour Law and to give fighting, and cority to Jordanian workers. fighting, and prority to Jordanian workers. up efforts to up

### WHAT'S GOING ON

he following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and e daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed me and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

MARKET An exhibition of photos of plays directed by Chereau, Mea-guich, Mnouchkine, Planchon and others, at the French Cultural Centre.

A photographic exhibition entitled "Panorama 1989" at the Seviet Cultural Centre.

An exhibition of paintings by Alia Ammoura, Nabila Hilmi and Nawai Abdullah at Abdul Hameed Shomas Foundation (10

a.m. - 5 p.m.). A photography exhibition by Samer Al Tal at the Yarmouk University.

An exhibition of stamp collection of the Arab Cooperation Council countries at Jordan Electricity Authority.

An Iraqi book exhibition at the Mu'ta University. An exhibition entitled "I wenty years of French contribution to studying Syrian archaeology" at the Institute of Anthropology

### and Archaeology at Yarmouk University. FILMS

Soviet documentaries at the Soviet Cultural Centre - 5:30 p.m.



هكذامنه المصل

PERILOUS JOURNEY: Two achoolgiris dash across # Ammen street during a isil in Sunday's downpour, which flooded many streets and exposed many dangerous manhol (Photo by Youet Al 'Allen)

## **Facsimile delivery** service introduced to ACC countries

AMMAN (J.T.) — Businessmen and companies as well as individuals can now have facsimile communications with the four countries of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) which groups Egypt, Iraq, and North Yemen besides Jordan, according to a statement by Dr. Abdullah Al Jazi, director-general of the Post Office and Postal Savings Cor-

Jazi said that Jordan's facsimile services can be conducted as from Sunday with other members of the ACC as well as the other Arab and foreign countries through 17 post offices around the country. Facsimile services started initially in Amman, which now has seven post offices to offer this service, and gradually spread to other parts of the country, Jazi said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

According to Jazi, the facsimile service which has been in existence in Jordan for two years, requires that both sender and the receiver to own a facsimile machine but with the ACC countries a message of this nature can be sent through a post office to be received by the post offices of the ACC countries which in turn send the message to the addressed person, in a relatively short time.

According to the corporation, the following post offices in Jordan can offer this service: The n rost Um Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel Office, and post offices in Jabal Hussein, the Housing Bank, Al Mahatta, Al Wehdat, the University of Jordan, the Sahab Industrial City, Irbid, Jerash, Matraq, Zarqa, Salt, Karak, Tafileh. Maan and Agaba.

# 'Trainee' engineers submit petition to King, premier

By Sana Atiyeh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - "Traince" engineers from the Ministry of Education Sunday continued their protest for a second day and submitted their demand for full-time employees under legal contracts to His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minis-ter Mudar Badran. All 70 "trainee" engineers

gathered in the heavy rain in front of the Prime Ministry for two hours carrying banners to ensure that their demands reached the prime minister, according to one protester. In a petition they signed and addressed to King Hussein and the prime minister, the en-gineers also pleaded that they not be sent to work in private sector consulting firms without guarantees that they return to their posts at the ministry.

Under a recent proposal made by the Education Ministry, the trainer engineers were to be referred to consulting firms during school projects and dismissed from the ministry. The firms were to decide whether to remin the engineers or to dismiss them after the projects were completed. The engineers strongly rejected this

In their petition sent to the King and the prime minister. the engineers said that they

had "knocked on all doors but to no avail. This is why we are asking for your kind interference in our case."

The engineers staged their first sit-in Saturday in front of the Parliament building and distributed their demands to Cabinet and Parliament mem-

Several deputies told the Jordan Times that they had planned to bring up the subject during Saturday's session of the Lower House, but due to lack of time, they were unable to do so during the last half hour of each session which is devoted to such issues.

The engineers complained

that their monthly salary of JD 120 did not include . .: y benefits such as raises, edical insurance and social security.

The Jordan Engine ciation (JEA) has ; ip the case an is curreanible talks w. a the ry of Education to find a so thon to the problem.

The protesters said they would not accept anything less than what they ask. "We just want to feel secure in our jobs. With legal contracts, we would be sure that we would not lose our positions in the ministry if we work on projects with the private sector," said one of

### Jordan moves to keep toxic ship from docking

AMMAN - Jordan has contacted governments in East Africa to ensure that a ship carrying dangerous waste estimated at 20,000 tonnes does not dock along the Aqaba shores, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Karim Al Dughmi.

He said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that upon hearing the news about the ship, Pro-Americana, the environment department at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs initiated contacts with concerned governments in East Africa to take precautionary measures to prevent the ship docking at any point along the Aqaba shores. The ship is reported to be searching for a port to dump its

Jordan, Dughmi said, has ban-ned the dumping of all types of dangerous waste on its territory. Jordan was one of 110 countries that signed an international agreement on controlling the process of dumping dangerous waste at a meeting held in the Swiss city of Basel March 20, 1989. The agreement is intended to

help protect the environment and provide for cooperation among Third World countries to combat pollution and protect the environment from toxic waste and other harmful chemicals.

The minister said that Jordan would never allow any toxic material to be dumped in the country at any cost. The ministry has already submitted to the Council of Ministers a proposal to declare Jordan a toxic-free zone.



Ahdul Karim Al Dughmi

Earlier this month, Dughmi announced that arrangements were being made for dumping poisonous and dangerous waste from Jordanian factories at remote areas. These areas were selected by specialised teams and cordoned off to prevent any human, agricultural or animal contact with them, according to the

## Transport association urged to hold elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mani .: Labour Qasee n Obelde: met with the chairman General Association و المستقد الم Transport Weikers to : " to the general assembly of the associa-

a new administrative committee at the earliest possible date. Obeidat said that the general assembly should meet to elect a new administrative committee to replace the present one here

tion for a regular meeting to elect

term has expired. The minister said that the ministry will resort to legal action if the association fails to convene its general assembly in a regular session. He pointed out that the ministry had no conditions on election process as long as they are held in accordance with the association's regulations unde-

the supervision of a neutral committee. Amendments made by the association to its internal regulations, Obeidat said, are illegal, because they are not in line with the provisions of the association's regulations, which require notifying the Ministry of Labour within a period of no more than two

made by the association have been approved adherence to its regulations.

## Meeting opens on use of solar energy in fighting soil problems mical pesticides. This led to an

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first international conference on the use of solar energy to tackle soil-related problems will begin in Jordan today with the participation of nearly 80 scientists and specialists in the protection of soil and plants from Arab and foreign countries.

The conference, organised by the University of Jordan and the United Nations Food and Agridiscuss 60 working papers dealing with modern technology for exploiting the Sun's energy to sterilse the soil and to climinate harmful pests. The conference is designed to help countries increase food production through cheap energy resources, tree of chemic-

The participants are expected to visit the Jordan Valley to examine agricultural experiments on soil sterilisation being, conducted by the University of Jor-dan's Faculty of Agriculture. According to Dr. Walid Abu Gharbieh, chairman of a commit-

tee preparing for the conference. his department at the faculty of agriculture has conducted several experiments on the use of solar er to fight pests at the University of Jordan's farm in the Jordan Valley. He described these experiments as successful, and said that results have been distributed to the farmers in the valley.

"These experiments resulted in reducing the cost of farming, especially the purchase of cheincrease in production," Ghar-bieh said. "Each dunum of land now produces seven tonnes of agriculture crops instead of threeand-a-half tonnes," according to Gharbich. The Royal Scientific Society

(RSS) has been spearheading efforts in Jordan for solar energy

RSS plans to convene an Arab international solar energy conference in November of this year

The November conference is expected to review working papers dealing with solar radiation. wind energy, thermal applications, bioconversion, passive solar architecture, heating and cooling and hydrogen production among other topics.

## weeks from the date of amendments for the ministry's approval. "The amendments already

registered with the ministry. So whatever consequences or inplications that might arise as a result would be considered null and void," Obeidat said. He added that such a situation calls for a "remedial" action on the part of the association to ensure

## Soweto rally cancelled

down with the government to

discuss a new constitution. Mandela's trip next week to Durban, Natal province's biggest city, is seen as a vital step by the ANC to solve the state of emergency.

Meanwhile, South Africa's anti-apartheid groups are finding it difficult to unite as Pretoria's charm offensive against the black majority gathers pace. Rival black groups already

show signs of squabbling just a week after Mandela was released.

The three main organisations fighting white minority rule are the ANC, the breakway Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) which stresses black reliance in the fight against apartheid, and the conservative Zulu-based Inkatha

All three, plus many smaller anti-apartheid groupings, are hastily reassessing their positions in the wake of De Klerk's sweeping plans to bring recognised black leaders to the constitutional

## Geagea seizes base

Red and white sentry boxes were shredded by shell and machinegun fire. Huge shell craters pitted the base main road and. helicopter pad.

Military sources said 12 army casualties were taken from the base. The LF-run Voice of Lebanon radio said the army lost 30 killed and 50 wounded, some seriously.

Security sources said at least 17 LF militiamen were killed and 25 wounded during the hand-tohand battles. Witnesses said army troops had

to pull out after losing control of six villas on a hill overlooking the Political sources said Aoun's

conciliatory tone, which saved the commandos, came after Syria offered to intervene to end the war and oust Aoun who refused to recognise the internationallybacked Lebanese President Elias Hrawi, supported by Damascus. Syria's 40,000 troops in Leba-

non ring the Christian enclave. Witnesses and security sources said there Aoun's men were on top alert around the general's headquarters, the presidential palace in the suburb of Baabda, fearing an attack.

Meanwhile a Lebanese leader

said Sunday inter-Christian fighting was destroying Lebanon but would not change the political

"In the absurd war that has swept Lebanon all parties know that none can finally defeat the others, but can only devastate Lebanon as is happening now," Lebanese Front leader Georges Saadeh told Jordan Radio by telephone from Paris.

The political map will not change, but the will of the Lebanese is the strongest and will eventually prevail, he said. "The will of the Lebanese is against the partition and disintegration of the country."

Saadeh, head of the Falangist Party which belongs to the Lebanese Front, was among Christian members of parliament who approved the Taif agreement in October. The accord led to the internationally-recognised election of Elias Hrawi as president.

Asked if he would approve military intervention by Hrawi to stop the fighting in the Christian enclave around east Beirut. Saadeh said: "The Taif agreement is clear. The legitimate authority (Hrawi) and his government must extend their authority on all Lebanese territory." He did not claborate.

# Jordan, Iraq to establish air squadron

(Continued from page 1) should be turned into a substitute homeland for Palestinians.

Jordan and Iraq have longstanding mutual defence and military cooperation agreements. In August 1988, Iraq gave Jordan 150 captured Iranian tanks, as well as reconnaisance vehicles and motorised troop carriers.

Last year, Israel complained that Iraqi jets were flying near Jordan's western border with

Israel. Jordanian officials did not deny the allegation, but said Israel has no right to complain about flights over Jordanian territory.

In Israel, Army Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Dan Shomron was quoted as saying Israel was not concerned about the reports of a joint training squadron formed by the Iraqi and Jordanian air forces.

The chief of staff and several political leaders noted,\_

however, that they saw no reason for Jordan to feel threatened.

"I don't see who's threatening them. Who is threatening them?" Vice Premier Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party, asked in a conversation

with reporters Moshe Shahal, the Iraqiborn energy minister and also a member of Labour, said he believed the air agreement would lead to Iraqi pilots flying

### over Jordan. Petra Bank staff to stage protest

### (Continued from page 1) sold that the word "strike" was not mentioned in the JBIEA ncement, and that Twes-

day's actions would be a pro-Anani said the association must "observe the law and work within the law. The

labour law stipulates that initial negotiations take place under an arbitration committee, then an arbitration council, and finally taken to an industrial tribunal to pass a final agreement between the parties in dispute."
"The negotiations were still

in the beginning stages under the arbitration committee," he said. "We asked the labour minister to postpone today's (Sunday) meeting because we could not attend this time, but we have already participated in previous meetings in the past two weeks," he explained.

He added that the mans ment committee should not be expected to find quick solutions to problems built up over the years. He said, however, that the management was considering "with favour reasonable needs of the staff to improve the benefits of employees to a maximum possible level, although the bank is not making any profit. We want what is in the best interest of Petra." Referring to the scheduled

protest, Anani expressed regret that the employees decided to protest at this time, and ques-tioned why they did not do so five years ago when their demands were not met.

He added that the man ment would LA allow the IBEIA to "twist our arms and we refuse to be pressured by politicised considerations. We are not politicians." The management will have to discuss the issue and how best to solve the problem with the government, he said.

Petra Bank employees expressed worry over the way the management committee was g their demands.

One branch manager who spoke on condition of anonymity told the Jordan Times that the management committee "has failed to put the bank on its feet." "Because they failed, we are

afraid that they (management) will use us employees as scapegoats and use us as an excuse to close down the bank," he said.

During the two previous rounds of negotiations, the

management has apparently agreed in principle to some of the demands of the employees, according to Hurani. He said that the management agreed to amend the financial structure of the staff and to ensure their full financial rights regarding

raises, medical coverage and

"The management also agreed to reassess the em-ployees' savings funds and to return the money that the bank rvested in areas not in the interest of the employees," he said. "They also agreed that concerned parties and institutions support and protect Petra bank and its employees."

had agreed to put an end to the "public slander against the ik which results in a negotive effect on the merale of the employees. They had also agreed in principle to publicly bring to account all those involved in financial correption and embezzlement in the past and present," Harani said.

He added that the association also called on the management to put an end to dismissal of loyees, and reinstate those who were already fired unless it was proven that they had actually committed an illegal

### Israelis kill schoolgirl

(Continued from page 1)

rallying point for opposition to current peace moves. In the cabinet, Sharon had campaigned to limit Shamir's room for negotiations with Palestinians. After formally submitting his resignation Sunday

opposed the entire process. "I will continue my struggle from the outside," the former tank commander and architect of Israel's 1982 invasion of Leb: non said on leaving the cabinet

morning, he made clear he

meeting. Sharon remains Central Committee chairman in Likud where an outspoken minority appears to support his goal of ousting Shamir as leader. His resignation as trade minister takes effect

Tuesday. He is determined to derail Shamir's proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories to choose representatives who would negotiate with Israel.

Washington is trying to arrange an Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo to prepare for such elections but Sharon said Israel should tell the Americans bluntly it is not interested.

An opportunity to challenge Shamir for the leadership would come only with the break-up of the current broad coalition government, which appears stable after 14 months of periodic internal squabbling and threats from Labour Party members to pull

"I am going to start a long march from town to town, from place to place, both in Israel and abroad," Sharon said of his plans to campaign against Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Sharon's resignation was the latest in a long career of attention-grabbing manoeuvres in both the army and politics that have deeply divided public

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10

By Waleed Sadi

Weekly Political Pulse

# Who would dominate in next elections?

THERE are growing speculations that once the projected National Charter is adopted and political parties created a new political environment would have been created necessitating elections in the country. The fact that the existing election law suffers from many shortcomings and loopholes would in due course call for their rectification in which case yet another set of conditions would have to prevail before fresh elections are conducted on sounder bases. Perhaps it is pure conjuncture at this point in time to speculate when such new national elections would

next two or three years. Such projections have in turn contributed to additional speculations about the results of any such elections when they in fact take place. Paramount on the minds of analysts is the strengths and weaknesses of the various political parties that presumably would be competing against one another. Of particular importance is whether the Islamists among the various blocks stand to increase their share of parliamentary power or suffer a defeat. In my humble opinion, it is almost a safe bet to project the Islamists as the biggest winners in the next elections for the following reasons:

First, at best, the economic and fiscal conditions are projected at this

and practising their respective religions when they face hardships. Of course that is not how things should be. Religion is supposed to be remembered and practised at all times, especially when things are good in order first to be thankful and then wishful that they may continue. Still human nature is such that people turn to religion mostly when they discover that mundane ways are not sufficient to redress their dire situations and difficulties.

Second, the political situation in the Middle East is also projected to worsen especially with the Palestinian conflict anticipated to be kept on hold and unresolved and the Arab order unable, or much worse unwilling to respond and react positively to the mushrooming changes that are occurring every day by leaps and bounds all around it. Again a feeling of loss and bewilderment would usher in a stronger religious climate in the Kingdom especially in view of the proposition that religion offers the kind of answers that people in distress would be yearning for most. It will be recalled in this context that Islam is a complete religion that offers panacea to everything that could occur to the minds of Muslims. That is why one sees another strong opportunity for the Islamists to expand and consolidate their forces everywhere in Jordanian life. One already discerns that the network of Islamist activity spreads in every direction both horizontally and vertically with no end in sight.

Third, the recent events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union have in effect pulled the rug from under the leftist forces who stand to be the Islamists' primary competitor. The promises and platforms of the leftists are so undermined now that they can no longer be expected to offer any stiff resistance to any advances made by the Islamists forces. The heyday of the left and their appeal, glory and charm have obviously faded if not ended for as long as one can see. Again here the Islamists are well positioned to capitalise on the demise of the extreme left in the world and make additional gains when it is time for Jordanians to cast their votes once again.

Fourth, the moderate political forces are not likely to salvage much of their present strength in the parliament. The conditions within the country and outside it are not exactly the kind on which traditional moderation can be nurtured and developed. Moderation would stand a reasonable chance to score major successes if and when there is prosperity in the country and the major political conflicts in the Middle East are resolved equitably and justly. None of these euphoric expectations are in the cards and unless a miracle or two fall on the country, the moderate forces are in for bigger surprises in the next national elections. In the same vein, the moderates would be deceived if they comfort themselves by the erroneous belief that their lack of success in the November elections was due in no small part to the low turnout from the moderate Jordanian electorate. It appears more likely than not that any increase in the number of voters in the future would be to the advantage of the Islamists and not the moderates. The climate in the country now and in the foreseeable future is also notfavourable to the moderates, especially because they have not been fully associated with reformation within the country and have joined the bandwagon of change reluctantly and belatedly.

Lopsided stance

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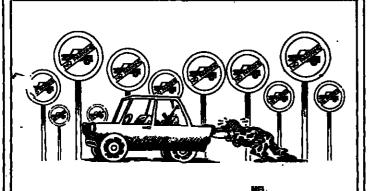
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**MOHAMMAD AMAD** 

IT IS most unfortunate and disturbing that several members of Parliament argued during Saturday's session against the repeal of the 1953 anti-communism law on grounds that such a step would be unconstitutional. The same very deputies were among the early people who cried out for democracy and freedom of expression and championed the return of parliamentary life. How they can reconcile their yearning for democracy and freedom of thought and expression with their present attitude on the anti-communism law, we do not know. If their sense of democracy and free expression would mean the denial of freedom of thou for others then there is something very wrong with the process of democracy in the country. We are not defending communism per se. History and recent events in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe are a better judge of that. But by the same token, we are not questioning or quarrelling with the fact that Jordan is a Muslim country and that this principle is duly incorporated in the Constitution of the land. But one is at a loss when confronted with the thesis of such diehard anti-communist members of Parliament who construe the Islamic nature of the country as the repudiation of every other thought or view which is contrary to Islam. To cite one easy example about the deficiency of the legal rationale of the Islamist deputies who would prefer to keep that infamous anti-communism law in the law books of Jordan, one would readily ask such people whether they intend to prevent pan-Arab nationalists or any other group in the country from believing and adhering to their thoughts and rights. Lest they forget, a reminder to those deputies who professed great concern about lack of democracy before the Nov. 8 national elections in the Kingdom: the same very anti-communism legislation was often invoked in the past not only against communists but also against all those who expressed a point of view which was compatible with government policy.

The kind of democracy the country seeks and worked so

hard to have is definitely not the kind that some members of Parliament are practising. Definitely, the democracy the country needs is not the one that gives some of us the right to speak out and denies it to others. This would indeed be a lopsided democracy that the Kingdom can ill afford.



### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Sunday highlighted statements made by Prime Minister Mudar Badran in which her referred to His Majesty King Hussein's talks with the Saudi monarch that reflected joint stands. The paper said Riyadh realises the importance of safeguarding Jordan as a fortress, defending the whole Arab nation and protecting the Arab order. The paper referred to the economic crisis in Jordan and said that Sandi Arabia's full understanding of the situation in Kingdom is a very important element; and Arab countries support for this country is essential so that Jordan can pursue its national role in full. King Hussein and King Fahd have both come to agreement on various Arab issues, and both have expressed the desire to have a summit meeting for all the Arab heads of state, provided ample preparations have been made first, the paper noted. The paper said that King Hussein's visit was highly successful and manifested the close ties between the two kingdoms in the face of the common challenges and under the current difficult circumstances.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticises a system under which the government retires employees who have not yet reached the ago of 60. Salah Abdul Samad says that many analysts believe that this practice is aggravating the problem of unemployment in Jordan since the early-retired people normally turn to the private sector where they become employed once again, earning income in addition to the pension they receive from the government thus depriving university graduates from the opportunity to work. Furthermore, retiring people who have a lot of experience tends to weaken the public administration system in the country because the new appointees can never make up for the quality of their predecessors, the writer notes. He suggests that the Civil Service Commission interfere and put an end to early retirement among government employees and save the country from further complications.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented Sunday on the situation in Lebanon in the light of the ongoing battles between the two warring Christian factions. The paper said that the vicious struggle for power between the two factions calls for a collective Arab action to stop the bloodshed and the loss of innocent civilian lives. Failure on the part of the Arab Nation to confront its common Israeli enemy, has no doubt caused the internal troubles within the Arab countries; and the Arabs have almost forgotten the occupation of Palestine and turned their guns on one another in a futile conflict that can only please Israel, the paper noted. The paper said that the Taif agreement which brought about the election of a new president in Lebanon, and the legitimate government of Elias Hrawi can and should help to put an end to the long ordeal.

occur; nevertheless all signals and indicators point to the proposition that new elections are imminent in the course of the

point in time to stabilise. Unemployment and inflation are accordingly projected to stabilise, but the likelihood of worsening situation cannot be excluded. It is also a well known proposition that people, any people for that matter, fall back to religion when things get tougher. It is amazing how people start remembering

Distant voices of dissent

By John Pilger

TRIUMPHANT cliches that the 'West has won" in Eastern Europe are incessant in the British media. They echo Margaret Thatcher's pronouncement that "our values" have been adopted: a theme ordained by liberal commentators as received truth.

With honourable exceptions, the coverage of Europe's upheaval has been so beset by jingoism, from the bellicose to the insidious, that the nature of change, and the emerging hopes and alternatives, have been obscured.

Czechoslovakia is a case in point. In 1977 I interviewed many of the Charter 77 people shortly after their organisation was forced underground. I was much moved by their political and intellectual courage in seeking democratic forms of their own. They were adamant in rejecting, as one of them put it, "the way of Washington, German, London."

They knew that, just as socialism had been subverted in their own country, so democracy had been devalued and often degraded in the West. I attended a secret meeting in Prague in which speaker after speaker warned of "values" embodied in NATO, an organisation which had legitimised the Brezhnev Doctrine and thereby reinforced their own

They also understood — unlike many of us in the West — that state power in the democracies is enforced not with tanks but with illusions, notably that of free ex-pression: in which the voice of the people is heard by what it says is subject to legislation and a pliant media. The American sage Walter Lippman, cited by Noam Chomsky, called this the "manufacture of consent" and warned that such "false consensus" could render a free society passive and

In 1977 the banned Czech writer Zdener Urbanak told me, "You in the West have a problem. You are unsure when you are being fied to, when you are being tricked. We do not suffer from this; and unlike you, we

have acquired the skill of reading between the lines." In Britain today we need to

develop this skill urgently, for as freedom is being gained in the East, it is being lost here. Our New Age is to be an information society, the product of a "communications revolution" as Rupert Murdoch likes to call it. But this is a fraud. We are being lead not into an information society but a media society to which unrestricted information is a

The narrowness of the British media, our primary source of information, is a national disgrace. This is not to say the Sun, the "market leader," is a mere comic; on the contrary, it is an in intensely ideological propaganda sheet with a coherent world view of our New Age society; one in which you stand on your own two feet, pull yourself up by your bootstraps and trust nobody; one in which money is what matters
— the "bottom line" — not to mention voyenism; looking on at mistfortue and violence. Objectors to this are "loony," Mrs.

Thatcher has said as much. The damage runs deep. Racism, for example, is all but acceptable. "The Press," says a Runnymede Trust report, "plays a very significant role in maintaining and strengthening and justifying racism at all levels of society, providing a cover for racist activity, especially racist

The "quality press" is very different from the Sun and its pale shadows, but there are common strands. Censorship by omission is one; and I wonder if younger journalists on the serious newspapers are aware of the sub-tle influences of Murdochism on their own work, notably the cynicism.

When in recent times have the now numerous and voluminous Sunday quality papers published anything that might pose a sustained challenge to the status quo. Salman Rushdie's brilliant defence of his work in the Independent on Sunday was an excep-tion. Increasingly, languid commentary and tombstones of vacuous stylism, owing much to the language of advertising, occupy the space of keen writing and provocative journalism. In the Observer a recently hired columnist, who on his first day wondered who he was and what he stood for, still apparently wonders. In the same pages a famous exhibitionist is brought back from television to continue his selfcelebration and empty repertoire. Perhaps this is meant as parody; certainly it is a metaphor.

Most of the quality press shares the same triumphalism as the Sun. The New Age corporate truth is upon us; there is nothing to challenge and scant need of a second opinion, except as a token, because everyone is agreed: "We" have won.

On Eastern Europe, a genteel McCarthyism is evident. Communists are "on the run" or slinking away from "irrefutable" truth that the free market system "works." Such simplistic nonsense, however decorous in wordand display, remains simplistic nonsense. Let there be a freeranging critique of Communism, whatever Communism may mean, but let there also be an equally rigorous review of "liberm." For these days it is barely mentioned that a world war is being fought by "the system that works" against the majority of humanity; a war over foreign debt which has interest as its main weapon, a war whose victims are millions of malnourished and dying children.

Television news, from which most people learn about the world, is a moving belt of headlines, caricatures and buzz-words, with pretensions that it is otherwise. In this way the Russian threat pervaded the nightly cold war saga of good guys and bad guys; and the habit is hard to break. The bad guys may have slipped from view, but the principal good guys cannot be de-

"It's up to the United States," we are told, "to sort out its Central American backyard." The coverage of the American invasion of Panama was not quite

as bad as in the United States. There were dissenting voices in the British media, but they were not well-informed and so served to legitimise the accredited truth: that the whole fiasco was a cowboys and-Indians pursuit of Old Pineapple Face.

Noriega, of course, had pre-cious little to do with it. George Bush ran the CIA when Noriega was their man, and drugs has long been a CIA currency. The aim was to put Panama, its canal and its U.S. base under direct American sovereignty, managed by other Noriegas. The Panamanian police chief appointed by Washington, Juan Guizado, is the same thug whose troops attacked the presidential candidates last

Consider how our perspective is shaped. It now seems certain that more than 2,000 Panamanians were killed in the American bombardment; more than died at the hands of the People's Liberation Army in Peking last June. And which victims do we remember, I wonder, and the politicians honour? Not those in Panama, to Thus, our "manufactured con-

sent," allows our government to condemned for a decade the Vietnamese expulsion of the genocidal Pol Pot.

In this book McCarthy And the Press, Edwin P. Baley, a distinguished American reporter of the 1950s, reveals how he and his colleagues became the tools of McCarthyism by reporting "objectively" propaganda and sel-dom challenging its assumptions.

In Britain today, the "free market and a strong State" doctrine belong to another "ism," but many of its effects are no less menacing and its dangers no less great, not least the process of indoctrination itself. The Thatcher government's

secrets legislation is as draconian and sweeping as the notorious "loyalty pledges" of the McCarthy period.
Old-style civil servants, with a

genuine sense of public service, are being replaced by the new

"privateers" who, as recent disclosures about the water industry demonstrate, are prepared to show their loyalty to government by misleading the public. This is a trend throughout the

bureaucracy.
"Loyalists" are being intro-duced at every level of the health service to implement the White Paper, perhaps to dismantle the NHS by stealth. The doctors and nurses understand this "hidden agenda." But it is not the mestage reaching the public because the media, too, has its powerful

When is there to be an effective

opposition to a plethora of laws which give this country a distinction shared with no other Western democracy, that of legislated silence and sychophancy, at vritually every level of current affairs journalism. Not a single broadcasting institution has challenged in court the government edict that makes criminals of television and radio journalists who-interview certain Irish politicians,: including those elected to Westminster.

Moreover, propaganda today bears little likeness to its historic models. Since 1979, the public tries have developed as powerful instruments of government propaganda. Consider the share-issue campaigns in which millions of pounds have been spent promoting the sale of public assets. Today, almost half of all advertising is originated by central gov-

Has it been forgotten that a enninely free society must forge the link between Macaulay's "fourth estate of the realm" and the rights of liberty and political democracy for all? This is the heart of it. A gathering silence ensures that freedom, real freedom, is denied; that nine million British working people will continue to live on or below the Council of Europe's "poverty threshold" and one in four British children will experience poverty, thousands of them incarcerated in bed and breakfast hotels and on crumbling estates.

There are millions of Britons like that: another, unseen nation not far from the bijou doors and Roman blinds, and who are now so crushed they are probably unable to share a vision of anything. And what if they did? Lech Walesa's revolution could not happen in Britain, where the right to strike and the right to semble and associate have been virtually destroyed. Those rights being fought for and restored with democratic zeal in Eastern Europe are those under review and in receivership here -Habeas Corpus, trial by a jury, the right to silence, and so on. No

on Human Rights as often as that of the U.K.; and no other has so often ben found guilty. The Thatcher government understands, the importance of media immeasurably more than its predecessors. That is why the disastrous Boradcasting Bill is being hurried through parliament. "Economic, analysis," noted a Home Office study, "tends to view broadcasting as an economic commodity service from which consumers de-

rive satisfaction much as they

might from a kitchen appliance

and whose value to society should

other regime has been brought before the European Commission

be assessed accordingly. That is the doctrine of the British revolution in which the price of "consumer satisfaction" is a state progressively shorn of all countervailing power. There is no counter revolution, of course; we have not yet learned to read between the lines. But there is a profound unease. When will journalism express this? When will Macaulay's link be forged? When will journalists and broadcasters break their supine silence and reaffirm surely the most vital and noble obligation of their craft; that of warning people when their rights are being taken away, and of reminding them of the histor-Illia consequences of vigilance lost. "The struggle of people as (against power)," wrote Milan Kundera, "is the struggle of

memory against forgetting"
The Guardian.

# Albania looks immune to change

By Peter Humphrey Reuter

TIRANA --- Isolated Albania is dearly no East European

ments have fallen, rocked by the winds of Soviet reform, but not a single tremor is detectable in this Balkan Communist state of three

million people. During a week in Albania, which included a stay in the sleepy capital Tirana and other major towns such as Skodra and Elbasan, free contacts with students and journalists, and formal interviews with officials, I have

There are no bodies strung from lamp posts to deter people from rising up against Commun-ism, despite Greek media reports to that effect a month ago

found no evidence of unrest.

Statues of Stalin and Lenin remain unmolested on their pedestals in the dusty centre of Skodra, in northern Albania. To suggest that these statues were toppied by an angry mob

last month, as reported by media in neighbouring Yugoslavia, draws a chuckle or two. "If two young men had squabbled in the road over a girl, the Yugoslav press would have called it a riot against the government,"

joked a young worker called

Edip.
Tirana angrily denounced the reports as malicious slander by ghbouring states in which it said conservative forces were trying to destabilise Albania.
But even Albanian Communist party leader Ramiz Alia saw the. funny side of the stories.

He visited a tractor factory near Tirana recently and the workers erupted in laughter when he told them with a smile what the Yugoslav media had reported about Albania, according to one source who said he heard the encounter on the radio

The only uproar I have witnessed was an enraged old man cursing his neighbour loudly on the street for failing to buy for him, as promised, a new foam mattress on sale in Tirana shops

There is no sign that unrest has occurred, nor that it will occur in the immediate future. The Romanian syndrome does not seem to exist in Albania.

"Romania's (Nicolae) Ceausescu was a dictator. But we have no dictator here," said one Albanian intellectual. "The people here actually support the Communist party

In Eastern Europe Communism was imposed by the Soviet Union upon countries which had a traditional antipathy towards

Albania's Communist party was essentially indigenous and is independent from foreign interference. The Albanians broke out of the Soviet bloc in 1961.

Unlike Romania, where Ceausescu's overthrow in December was triggered by pent-up rage after decades of misrule and deprivation, Albanian shops and markets, although austere and often delapidated, are well-stock-ed with vegetables and basic necessities easily affordable on the basic Albanian monthly wage of 400 to 500 leks (about \$65).

Meat is the only important commodity in short supply, and the authorities are encouraging small-scale private stock-breeding to ease the situation.

Since visiting a year ago, more consumer goods have appeared on the shelves, and more modern fashious, especially blue jeans and trendy leather jackets, are sported by young people.

There are more leisure centres. The smoke-filled cafes where Albanians drink brandy and coffee and eat sweet cream cakes have been smartened up. Some which appeared to have been closed a year ago are now open

again.
"We may be poorer than all the other countries in Europe, but we feel that our standard of living is improving step by step and we want to continue to develop in our own way, independently," said a student.

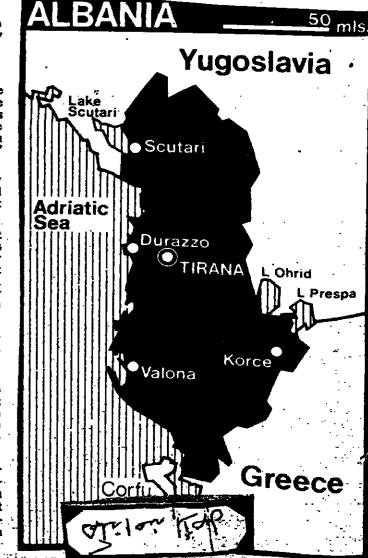
"Before World War two hardly any Albanian could read and there was hardly any industry at all." he said.

A resident Western diplomat said he believed some Albanians were impatient to enjoy a higher living standard but that most compared their present situation with pre-war poverty and squalor rather than the luxury of the

"You will not see major up-heavals like Eastern Europe in Albania for many years," the diplomat said.

"And there is no sign that the country will give up its Socialist system in the near future even though they are attempting some limited economic reforms to boost productivity.

"The problems which precipitated the speedy change in Eastern Europe have been resolved in Albania through our (Socialist system)," Deputy Foreign Minister Sokrat Plaka told Reuters in an interview on Friday.



# The tribulations of a psychic healer

By Jon Miller

sts are well positive BAGUIO CITY, The Philippines - The man is a cross between a flashy movie star, a flamboyant politicism, a hotelier and a faith healer. Fame has reached him: he only moves around surrounded by body guards. Not only was he the mayor of this bostling resort city, but he claims to have healed a host of personalities, including former Philippines dictator Ferdinand Marcos, of whom he is a

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staunch supporter.
Visiting Ramon "Jun" Labo Jr. at his mountain-side inn is like walking into a scene out of Serrealist theatre. Picture a dimiy-lit room, full of shadows. After a moment, the features of a botel lobby come into focus: a long reception desk, plush softs, a mirrored ceiling.

A middle-aged Japanese woman in a shupy bloose and leather trousers leans over the counter. Cigarette amoke abroads her pallid face, then curls through her permed and pomaded hair. Across from her is a Filipino desk attendant, his head resting in his hand, and between the two a half-completed jigsaw puzzle

A whisper comes from a corner. A tiny woman beckons from behind a desk which stands like a sentry at the top of a dark staircase. With a puzzied expression, she looks from the visitor to a ledger open in front of her. "Are you here for a healing?" she asks. Her voice is hushed as she peers through glasses as thick as jam jar bottoms. No, the visitor answers, "I'm here to visit the mayor With a surprised look on her face she signals towards a red velour

sofa, "Just wait," she says.
Far off in this Asian island, there is a distinct, oddly Western feel about the place. It's like a cross between a night chib and a ski lodge. Yet many details are Japanese: lampshades, ashtrays, calendars. Along the walls are faded colour photographs - vintage 1970 - peopled by women in mini-skirts and men in business suits. Each picture features a dapper little man with a wide, showman's smile. This must be the famous Labo.

Suddenly, there is a commotion. In he comes, emerging from the bright clouds and mist of an empty parking lot, surrounded by a cotene of attendants and bodyguards. His impish face is just the vice from white same as on the photographs, but e satisfaction we now he's smoking. At 56, he ght from a line looks tired, grim-faced. He is dwhose value he dressed like a television variety show host. On one wrist he wears a gold watch, on the other a diamond bracelet.

> All at once, people -- camerapacking Germans, Filipinos and Jananese - materialise out of nowhere and shuffle towards him, excited. He waves and keeps on walking. In a moment, the group disappears up the stairs. In spite of all the glitz, Labo is

dism express tiel not a happy man. Local sources acaulay's link being say he is wary of the press and rarely grants interviews, but today, he will make an exception. He has just returned from the capital, Manila, where he took ible obligation di. part in a march to protest Philipat of warning pent pine President Corazon Aquino's reminding them refusal to allow the body of the ousted dictator to be returned to his native land. Back in Bagnio, the Philippines' "City of Pines," Labo decries what he calls "the brutality of Cory." He says that emory again is he Guardian. the Supreme Court which supported the decision to prevent the return of Marcos' corpse, is in-

herently biased. The same Supreme Court recently rejected Labo's own appeal over his dis-puted citizenship. The Commis-sion on Immigration and De-portation ruled that Labo was an Australies citizen (the result of an earlier marriage; his current wife is Japanese). He fought the ruling and is still bitter about losing. The court's decision lost him

the right to serve as mayor of Bagnio, even though he won a 1967 election. As mayor, he had made pleasy of promises; to build a foreign-funded "mini-Disseyland," to install a cable car to bring in touries, and to build the biggost golf course in Asia. But all his grandiose plans were deshed to the ground when he was forced to give up his position after barely two years in office. Labo makes no secret of his

political beliefs: "I am a Marcos man," he proudly asserts. "I think it is the right time for Cory to make the rights decision and send Marcos back," he adds in halting, unsteady English. And if she doesn't? "Then there will be a revolution for sure." Labo and his wife, Yuko, own

a tea factory in Japan, and that along with his lucrative botelhealing business, has made him a wealthy man. All the people who come to the hotel come to be heald. Meanwhile, he drives around in a restored 1935 white Rolls Royce, and his bodyguards follow in a new four-wheel driven van equipped with a two-way radio and a video screen. "I am still poor, but I am rich at beart,"

Labo notes cryptically. Labo considers himself a healer and he includes his political activities under that term. His style, Las Vegas taste and blusteriness are not unique, but his skills as a "psychic surgeon" are something

Labo claims to have cured scores of people of cancer, diabetes and other ailments — he refuses to discuss Marcos' disorders, but says he treated him regularly from 1983 to 1986. He says he also treated lots of other famous people, but declines to name names. In fact he is not eager to divulse much about his mysterious craft. He knew he was psychic at the age of 9, he says, and adds that meditation, not training, taught him how to heal. "I often saw lots of images," he explains. "Sometimes I heard voices telling me what to do. That's how I developed" this gift.

"My mother is a gifted dentist, which is psychic healing. She pulls people's teeth out without ing anaesthesia. So I was brought up with this." When pressed to explain what he is actually doing when he "operates," he merely says: "This is a gift of God."

The operating procedure itself is a peculiar mix of showmanship and dirty work. Half-naked pa-tients mill around a crowded waiting room until Labo gives a signal, at which point they rush one by one to the operating table. When he has new patients, he says, he "reads" their problems from a white sheet of paper he holds up in front of them, but with repeat customers, he just

With an impassive face, he uses his bare hands and seemingly nges his fingers into the flesh. Blood spurts out. He digs deeper and puls out a gory mess of string-like material and lumps of tissue and holds it up for people to see. In some cases, he performs a stunningly realistic feat



still promises to help the believers who come from all over the

looks like the patient's entire eveball, cleaning it and putting it

Blood, gore and guts appear before the eyes of the spectator, but it is difficult to see where it all comes from. When Labo moves on to another part of the patient's body, his assistants wipe the first area clean of blood, and there is nothing there - no mark, no scar, no evidence that the skin has been broken.

Labo works at lightning speed — spending less that a minute on each patient. Several come under his nimble hands two or three times in a session, but after 20 minutes, the day's healing is

There are several of these sychic healers in the Philippines, but Labo is the best know, attracting people from all over the world. One of his assistants allegedly admitted that he goes down to the market to buy chicken blood, and tests have apparently shown that the tangle of guts and tissue that supposedly comes out of the patients is not

Still, like watching a magician pull a dove out of a handkerchief, it is impossible to see where the blood and guts are coming from. Labo works with bare arms, his

which consists in removing what ing table seems free of any secret compartments. Labo lets people take pictures, even close up. While traditional doctors dismiss it all as trickery, patients claim the "treatment" really works. Among recent patients is Dr.

Manfred Irion, 38, a chemist who came all the way from West Germany to seek a cure for multiple scelerosis and a severe bladder infection. West German doctors have been unable to cure him of either complaint, Irion says. He heard of Labo from a satisfied patients and felt that flying to the Philippines and paying \$500 for a 10-day treatment was worth it. After three days, he still hoped for complete recovery.

People told me I would have to believe in order to be cured. I don't know. At this point, I can say that I believe the things he is taking out of me were really in my body," Irion says. "I am a scientist, but I still believe there are things in the world that science can't explain."

Nor, it would seem, can Labo himself. I any case, it seems that for the time being, his healing practice is not his top priority.
"Now back to politics," he exclaims, dragging on his cigarette after the healing session is over. For Labo. 1989 was a rough year, but the show must go on

### Late-talking toddlers may need therapy

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — Many toddlers who are slow to speak fail to outgrow the problem by the time they reach age 3, suggesting treatment should be considered to expand their vocabulary, a scientist says.

Traditional wisdom has counseled a wait-and-see attitude for 2-year-olds with delayed language development," said Rhea Paul, an associate professor of speech and hearing sciences at Portland State University.

But while some such toddlers improve spontaneously, many who show early signs of trouble expressing themselves may ex-perience "Long-term difficulty in language and school achieveshe said. Paul's study involved 42 tod-

dlers with language considered normal, and 36 considered "language delayed," producing fewer than 10 intelligible words at 18 to 23 months, or fewer than 50 words or no two-word combinations by 24 to 34 months. Of the 2-year-olds who were "language delayed," 41 percent couldn't ex-press themselves as well as they should have by age 3, Paul found.
And more than half of the 3-yearolds showed delays in their ability

to understand. Paul said slow development of language ability may be linked to immature or underdeveloped abilities to socialise with other children. If so, treatment by a specialist should emphasise the use of language in daily conversation and social situations, she said.

## Bahrain digging for clues to ancient Dilmun

By Mariam Isa Reuter

BAHRAIN - Archaeologists in Bahrain are digging through 4,000 years of history to learn more about the people who dominated the ancient trade routes of the Middle East.

Clues unearthed so far show this palm-covered Gulf island the site of the world's largest prehistoric graveyard — was once the centre of the bustling Dilmun

Ancient Dilmun's trade network stretched from the Indus valley in Pakistan to Mesopotamia at the head of the Gulf and Anatolia in what is now Turkey. Archaeologists say it is becoming clear that 100,000 grave

mounds built in Bahrain between 2,200 and 1,700 B.C. were not used for burials by the Mesopotamians, who considered the island a holy land.

More than a third of the graves have been destroyed by develop-ment, but not before many were examined by archaeologists from Jordan, Denmark, France and Bahram itself.

Now a British team is excavating a 4,000-year-old town near an oasis in the northern part of the island to try to discover how the

ancient Dilmon people lived.
"Thanks to all the excavations which have been done so far we know a great deal about how the people died but we know remarkably little about how they lived," said Harriet Crawford, one of the expedition's directors.

"What we do know is that they were very skillful merchants and the island was an extremely important international market

place at around 2,000 B.C." Crawford, who has done extensive research in Iraq, said the immortality to find Ziusudra, sur-Mesopotamians once were dependent on goods shipped from Dilmm.

Clay tablets found in Iraq showed Dilmun supplied them with wood, ivory and precious stones from the Indus valley, copper from Oman and steatite stone from Iran and the Arabian peninsula.

Mesopotamian merchants provided wool and grain — a valuable commodity for Dilmun, which imported much of its food.

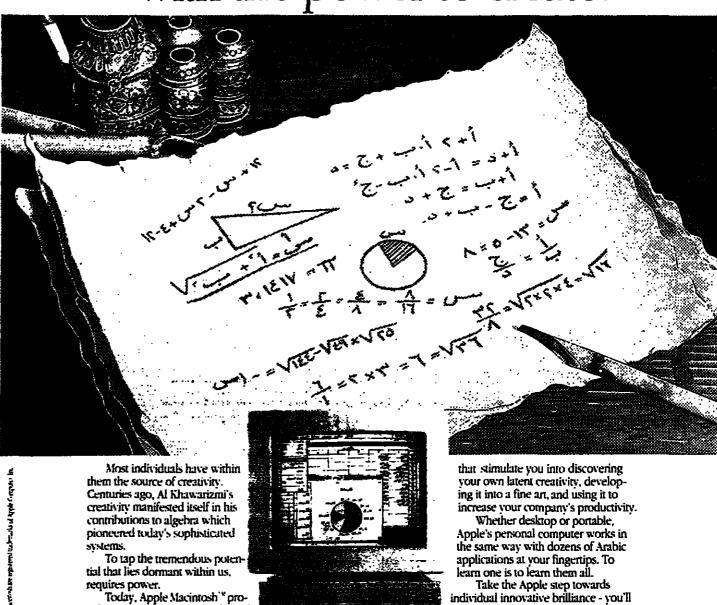
In turn Dilmun, with numerous freshwater springs, was famous

for its dates and "fish-cyes" - an old term for pearls. An ancient Middle Eastern epic says the warrior Gilgamesh came to Dilmun on a quest for

vivor of a pre-Biblical flood. Ziusudra told Gilgamesh to find the flower of immortality by tying a stone to his feet and jumping into the sea - a technique Gulf pearl divers used until

recently. Crawford said Dilmun which boomed between 2,200 B.C. and 1,800 B.C. — had links with Magan, an earlier culture in what is now Oman in the southern Arabian peninsula, and Falaika in modern Kuwait

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# Share trading surges in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Share trading in Bahrain has more than doubled since the island's first stock exchange officially opened in June last year but further steps are needed to bring invetors to the fledgling market, officials and brokers say.

Exchange head Fawzi Behzad said turnover in the second half of 1989 leapt to 44.3 million shares from 17.2 million in the first six months of the year, when shares were traded on an unofficial telephone and telex market.

During the same period the total value of shares traded in 29 liste Bahraini companies surged to 11.4 million dinars (\$30 million) from 3.2 million dinars (\$8.5

But there are only about 10 deals a day in the hour and half the floor is open for business from Thursday to Saturday and few prospective investors have visited the spacious sea-front ex-

change since it opened June 17. Behzad said the main problem was most shareholders were unwilling to sell because prices were not fluctuating enough.

"It's still a demand market --people buy and hold shares instead of trading them," he told "Prices should fluctuate more

we are encouraging companeis to provide more information on their performance and plans to make this happen," he said. Share prices in Bahrain and

other Gulf Arab states are starting to recover as the region's economies emerge from a mid-1980s recession brought on by lower oil prices.

But bankers say they are still only a fraction of what they were worth during the oil boom years and investors are reluctant to sell at a huge loss.

Company reluctance to disclose information which could be seen as negative is another obstacle. so is widespread lack of investor confidence in the wake of the 1982 crash of Kuwait's Souq Al Manakh exchange, which was the biggest in the Gulf.

Exchange figures show the average daily value of trade on Bahrain's exchange rose to about 124,000 dinars (\$331,000) in December from 49,000 dinars (\$131,000) in June - partly reflecting a normal lull during the summer months.

It fell to 82,000 dinars (\$218,000) a day in January.

of total business, followed by local banks with 19 per cent, service companies with 11 per cent and insurance with two per cent. Industry and hotel sectors shared the remaining one per

Behzad said several steps were being considered to increase both the supply and demand for shares in the market in 1990.

Citizens of other Gulf Cooperation Council states — Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — will soon be allowed to own and trade to 49 per cent of stock in Bahraini companies compared with 25 per cent now, he said.

Pension funds like the General Organisation of Social Insurance are being encouraged to begin buying and selling shares on the official bourse and there are plans for government treasury bills to be traded on a secondary market. Behzad said several govern-

ment-owned firms were expected to sell off some of their stake to the public this year while some private companies were likely to begin issuing new shares to raise money for expansion.

Plans by Arab Banking Corporation - Bahrain's biggest

on the island's exchange following a \$250 million share flotation would also bring investors to the market, he said

"I am optimistic that the volume and value of trade will be higher in 1990," Behzad said. But brokers on the exchange said they believed more should be done to bring small investors to

the market.

There are shares available but there are not enough buyers around... priority should be given to the small investor to widen ownership of major firms," said

The broker said rather than opting for private placements with a few wealthy investors, government shares should be sold in small lots and at a discount so more could enter the market. The new investors would try to

sell at a profit and then start buying other stock, he said. Brokers and economists say another positive step would be for the island's major banks to set up unit trusts to invest money

from small investors in local

"This would give confidence to the market because people trust the banks," one broker said.

## Tunisia proposes Maghreb mission to EC

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia Saturday proposed the formation of a special mission to defend North Africa's economic interests in the European Community (EC), its main export market.

Tunisian President Zine Abi dine Ibn Ali, marking the first anniversary of the Arab Maghreb Union with Algeria, Libya, Mauritania and Morocco, proposed "the creation of a Maghreb mission accredited by all of us with the European Community.

Ibn Ali, current chairman of the North African group, said the mission would "watch over the Maghreb Union's economic interests in the EC...without duplicating the action of our respective

The union was set up at a summit in the Moroccan city of Marrakesh to promote a common market between the five member states to counter the impact the single European market is likely

Speaking to a meeting of the union's Consultative Council, an embryonic Maghreb parliament, Ibn Ali also announced that a plan to institute a common identity card would be presented to heads of state in July.

Meanwhile Tunisia has signed contracts to buy 300,000 tonnes of Libyan gasoil and kerosene and 100,000 tonnes of Algerian liquified gas this year, Economy Minister Moncef Belaid has said.

Tunisia has also renewed for three years a contract for 400 million cubic metres of Algerian natural gas a year, he told the closing session of a meeting of North African energy ministers.

Belaid gave no prices but Tunisian officials said they would be in line with those on the international market. The two-day meeting approved

in principle proposals to link the electricity grids of the five countries in the Arab Maghreb Union, extend a network of natural gas pipelines and encourage regional trade in petroleum products.

A statement said the ministers drew up plans for a North African free market in energy products with a timetable to be agreed at their next meeting in September.

### Paris cancels Kenya loans

NAIROBI (R) — France has written off 1.33 billion francs (\$231 million) of Kenyan debt, representing the bulk of its governmental loans to the East African country. French Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy made the announcement in Nairobi before signing an agreement for a new soft loan to Kenya of 136 million francs (\$24 million) to heip finance a hydro-electric dam project. The forgiven debt accounts for about 90 per cent of loans from the Paris government to Kenya over the past decade, a French diplomat in Nairobi said. It does not include commercial credits or loans, he added. In 1987, the most recent year for which the figure is available, Kenya's total external debt was \$5.9 billion.

### the giant project to build a tunnel tunnel under the Channel have linking Britain to the rest of soared from £4.8 billion (\$8.2 billion) to £7.2 billion (\$12.2 bil-Europe, banking sources said lion), plunging Eurotunnel into a As Eurotunnel, the developers cash crisis and unnerving its behind the project, locked horns 500,000 shareholders. in court with the consortium Banks have frozen funding for

Bank of England arranges

deal to rescue Eurotunnel

actually building the tunnel in a row over unpaid bills, Eurotunthe project, due to be completed by June 1993, until the differnel's chairman warned that the ences between Eurotunnel and TML, a consortium of 10 British But a tentative accord between and French contractors, have the two Angio-French consor-

him and TML, industry sources

times was struck late Friday at been settled. secret talks called by the bank's At the centre of the latest governor, Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the sources said. dispute is the abrasive style of Eurotumel chief executive Alis-Contractor Transmanche Link tair Morton. Part of the deal (TML) and Eurotunnel, who could involve appointing an exhave jeopardised one of the ecutive to act as a buffer between world's biggest construction pro-

money, appeared to have reached Leigh-Pemberton made clear to a compromise and Eurotunnel the two sides at Friday's meeting was expected to make an how seriously the bank took the amouncement this week, they need for the privately-financed project to be completed success-"There was a certain amount of banging of heads together to

Since 1802, when one of Napomake them see sense and a tentaleon's engineers drafted plans for tive agreement was struck, but a link across the Channel, there let's not jump the gun," a senior

have been 30 attempts to bridge it banking source said.

Estimates of the cost of comor tunnel under it. British fears that a defensive pleting the 50-kilometre twin rail moat would be breached - the country has not been invaded since the Norman conquest in

1066 - killed an Anglo-French rail tunnel project in 1883. And although Britain felt less threatened in 1975 tight finances killed another proposal that year.

Shareholders were shaken Friday when Eurotunnel Chairman Andre Benard said the latest attempt to link Britain and France might also fail because of the row over money with TML which came to a head in a French court Friday.

The court ordered Eurotunnel to pay TML £62 million (\$105 million) but Eurotunnel said it would appeal.

TML has blamed Eurotunnel magement for delays and the huge cost overruns.

Shares in Eurotunnel took a knock because of last week's rows, closing in London Friday at 553 pence (\$9.4), down from 625 pence (\$10.6) the previous week. The shares hit £12 (\$20.4) at one

Afghanistan

seeks loans

# Romania to keep petrochemicals main foreign currency earner

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania's petrochemical ministry expects the industry to remain a major foreign currency earner despite increased domestic consumption.

Romania's new government is redirecting exports to the domes-. tic market, starved for years of heating fuel under dictator Nicolae Ceausescu who was overthrown and executed last De-

Chemical and Petrochemical Industry Minister Gherghe Caranfil said in an interview that chemical and petrochemical exports were worth over \$2.5 billion last year, or 20 per cent of the

country's total exports. "We hope to maintain this level provided we have adequate

energy resources," he said. Considering the present market conditions, we intend to reduce our crude refining and to import gasoil to cover our needs," he noted.

He said refining capacity was about 32 million tonnes a year, which was used according to its

profitability. "We are using this capacity and are well ahead of us."

according to our domestic requirements and economic efficiency. If it is profitable, we process more. When the market price falls, we process less," he

He said two thirds of the crude processed in the country was im-

Caranfil said funds were needed to modernise refineries and the ministry was eager to increase its already extensive contacts with Western Europe and the United States.

The industry was aware of possible pollution problems, he

"Our refineries are based on 1980s technology. Our equipment is up to the standards laid down by international law. We have plans for the recovery of gas emissions, desulphurisation and biological treatment plants for vaste water," he said adding: "Of course we have a lot to improve, for example in the field of catalysts, where Western companies have made great progress

Meanwhile. Romanian natural gas output fell almost 16 per cent in 1989 compared to recent years due mainly to intensive exploitation of reserves, a government minister was quoted as saying.

Economics Minister Victor Stanculescu told the daily Adevarul that production was down to 32 billion cubic metres last year against an average of 38 billion cubic metres between 1986 to

He blamed excessive exploitation on the all-out export drive launched by Ceausescu to wipe out the country's \$10 billion fore-

Output was also suffering this year. "Natural gas production in January was 2.78 billion cubic metres compared to 3.28 billion cubic metres in January, 1989," Stanculescu said.

He said Romania's industry failed to meet its targets in January with production at only 98 per cent of the plan figure.

Stanculescu said the country's provisional government which has ruled since last December's tors to the country.

had already taken steps towards decentralising the previously rigidly planned economy. "We have lowered the number

of centrally set plan indicators to 14 from the previous 100 and are now keeping track of some 400 products compared to the 1,800 products which had been a part of the previous central plan," he

He added the former regime's central economic plan for 1990 had represented a stack of files four metres high.

This year Romania plans to cut back exports of consumer goods in order to increase the standard

"But at the same time we shall have to boost productivity and efficiency in order to avoid inflation," he said.

Adevarul, in another article, said Romania's tourist industry lost an estimated \$3.5 billion in the past decade due to cutbacks in services and quality and the subsequent fall in Western visi-

# Argentina to open oil fields to foreigners

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Foreign companies will be able to produce and export oil from state-owned fields for the first time in decades under guidelines the government is set to unveil later this month.

LONDON (R) — The Bank of

England has stepped in to rescue

project could collapse.

jects with constant haggling over

Sunday.

Recent interview with oil authorities reveal that under the proposed new rules, Yacimien tos Petroliferos Fiscales (YPF) will allow foreign companies to recover oil from 40 fields that are low producing because the state oil company lacks capital and secondary-recovery technology.

YPF estimates the fields contain about 145 million barrels of oil, but now produce only 21,230 barrels a day. YPF has 250 such marginal fields.

Christopher Avenius, chief geologist for Texaco's Argentine subsidiary, said in an interview with the Associated Press that the possibility to boost production and make money is considerable.

"In Argentina, 84 per cent of production is primary recovery and only 16 per cent is secondary," Avenius said "By comparison, in the United States, 60 per cent of production comes from secondary areas."

The tentative date for President Carlos Menem to sign the new decree is Feb. 19.

Argentina potentially is a bonaza for oil companies. YPF, set up in 1922, has dominated drilling and exploration since Juan Domingo Peron was elected president in 1946. In 1963, President Arturo illia cancelled foreign contracts to give YPF a monopoly.

In recent years, however, the fourth-largest public company in Latin America has lost money, including an estimated \$1 billion in 1989 on total sales of \$6.3 billion.

"Productivity at YPF is onequarter that of a private company," Octavio Frigerio, YPF's chief executive until he resigned

last month, said in an interview. "What they can do with one person, YPF has four."

"In all the areas where there may be oil, we have explored maybe three per cent," Frigerio. "The other 97 per cent no one know what is out there.

The new guidelines aim to promote foreign investment and increase production, which last amounted to about 163 million barrels, fourth-highest in Latin America behind Mexico, Veneznela and Brazil

They would follow other changes decreed last year by Menem that are designed to open up the sector.

Companies bidding on new derelopment contracts as of last November may refine and market the petroleum they recover. Under previous contracts, foreign companies - which produce about 30 per cent of Argentina's oil - must sell to YPF, which refines and markets it.

Shortly after he took office last July, Menem removed some obstacles to foreign investment, such as restrictions on profit repatriation, by giving overseas investors the same treatment under Argentine law as domestic companies.

In the face of a major recession and one of the highest rates of inflation in the world, Menem has sought to stimulate the economy by ending decades of state intervention, and move Argentina to a market-oriented economy.

The oil sector is an area he targeted where new capital and technology might improve output and efficiency, and spur employment and economic growth. The other key area was agriculture. Under the proposed guide-lines, foreign operators would have the option to export or refine 80 per cent of oil recovered

from the 40 marginal fields, with 20 per cent to be sold to YPF at

market prices.

KABUL (R) --- Afghanistan, devastated by a decade of war, is considering asking world lending institutions to reschedule its debt repayments and to consider fresh loans this year, Finance Minister

Hamidullah Tarzi has said. Afghanistan is hoping for fresh development money from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, and for balance-of-payments assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Tarzi said, adding Kabul was still finalising prop-

He told Reuters he has sounded out World Bank officials and while they are not very enthusiastic about giving us loans, they have not closed the door on the prospects."

Tarzi said Afghanistan's foregn debt stood just below \$10 billion, with service on the debt devousing six to 10 per cent of export earnings which last year totalled \$675 million. Afghanistan owes the bulk of

its debt to the Soviet Union with er owed mainly to multilateral institutions in the non-Communist world, Tarzi

Kabul recently asked Moscow to reschedule its foreign debt, he added, but declined to give deails.

He said Afghanistan had sufficient foreign reserves in dollars, gold and special drawing rights to finance a year of imports which totalled \$500 million in 1989.

Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kishtmand said last week the country's gross national product in 1989 was about 510 billion afghanis (\$919 million), 15 per cent of which was allocated to

Afghanistan used to get aid of about \$60 million a year from multilateral sources before the 1978 revolution in which communists came to power in a bloody coup.

# G.M. posts lower 1989 profits

DETROIT (R) — General Motors (G.M.) recaptured its title of most profitable American automaker by posting 1989 pro-fits that beat those of archrival

But G.M. won on a technicality - Ford took a big one-time charge against earnings in the

fourth quarter.

G.M., the world's biggest carmaker, reported that earnings for the year dropped 14 per cent to \$4.22 billion from \$4.86 billion in 1988, as it continued to grapple with a weakening domestic auto industry and heated competition.

G.M.'s victory was the first in three years. But if it were not for a one-time write-off of \$424 million by Ford, which sold its ailing Rouge steel unit at a loss, Ford's net profits would have

squeaked by G.M.'s. G.M. said the earnings made it the most profitable manufacturing company in the world. Ford said Thursday its profits for 1989 fell 28 per cent to \$3.84 billion from \$5.3 billion.

In 1986 Ford outearned G.M. for the first time since 1924 when founder Henry Ford was selling his famous model T.

The three biggest American car companies — G.M., Ford and Chrysler — are all struggling amid an auto downturn that has battered earnings.

Despite the lower 1989 earnings, Ford cited gains as its U.S. car market share climbed to 22.3 per cent from 21.7 per cent. "Overall, the company per-formed well during a period of declining business conditions in North America and increasing

Petersen and Vice Chairman Harold Poling said in a state-Although G.M. still sold more cars last year than Ford and Chrysler combined, it has had to contend with its market share being eaten away over the past

competition," Chairman Donald

decade by its Detroit and Asian G.M. reported its 1989 profits were significantly boosted by good showings at its electronic data

systems, G.M. Hughes Electro-nics and GMAC units as well as overseas auto operations.

G.M. said 1989 sales rose two

per cent to \$112.53 billion from \$110.23 billion the previous year. Overall, G.M.'s worldwide sales of cars and trucks in 1989

reflecting a decline in U.S. sales. The company said G.M. overseas sales set a record at 2.3 million

Chrysler Tuesday reported a big fourth-quarter loss of \$644 million, its first in seven years, as it was hit by \$577 million in restructuring costs to reflect retotalled 7.9 million units, two per duced auto demand. cent less than the prior year,



"Thirty years ago I had him wrapped around my little finger. Of course,

# Aden raises wages

ADEN, South Yemen (AP) — The government has ordered big wage increases after more than a month of strikes that would have been banned before South Yemen brought in its own "peres-

A late-night radio announcement said the increases would range from 18 dinars (\$52) a month for the lowest wages to 6 dinars (\$18) a month for the

The announcement came after a meeting of the central committee of the ruling Yemeni Socialist Party led by Secretary-General Ali Salem Al Beidh.

The minimum wage for manual and white-collar workers in the country, mainly concentrated in Aden, the capital and Red Sea port, is 60 dinars (\$176) a month. For the lowest category, the increase is 30 per cent. Higher

(\$440) a month. The strikes began in early January at a research centre of the ministry of education and spread to several government offices as well as the Aden refinery, the major printing house and the country's main textile mill.

Sunday, February 18, 1990 Central Bank official rates

671.0 675.0 1140.7 1147.5 675.0 403.1

108.7 54.0

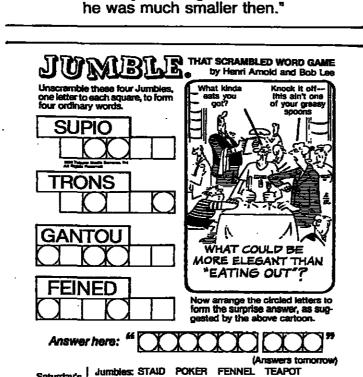
wages are around 150 dinars

The vital port facility continued to operate normally, however.

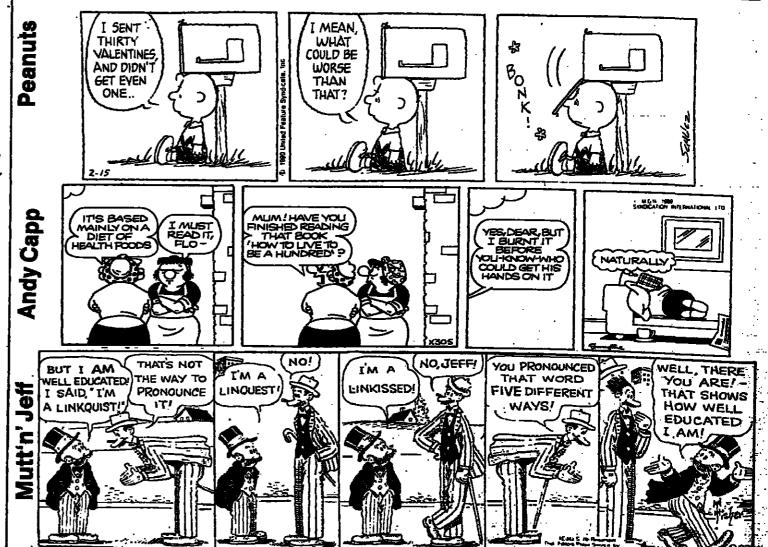
### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Japanese yen (for 100) Dutch guilder Swedish crown





Answer: People, who travel in order to become broadened sometimes return home this way—"FLATTENED"



### Rival fans riot in N. Ireland

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) - Rival Protestant and Roman Catholic soccer fans rioted in a heavily policed stadium Saturday, and police said they fired plastic bullets into the

stands to subdue the rioters. The violence spilled into surrounding streets, and fans hijacked four buses and set them afire, a statement from the Royal Ulster Constanbulary said.

Forty-eight police and 15 civilians were injured and one officer and one civilian hospitalised,

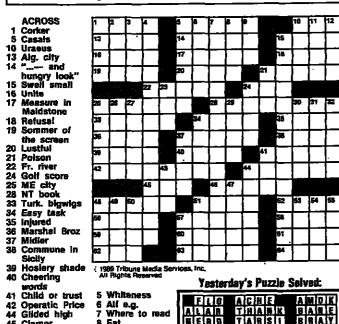
It was the worst soccer violence in years in Northern Ireland. Sports events are usually free of the fighting between Protestant and the Roman Catholic minority that has afflicted other areas of life in the British province.

Security forces had feared trouble at the game, a first-round match in the bass Irish Cup competition, so the game was delayed 25 minutes on police orders until the rival fans were in the ground and settled.

The police, who said many fans "were under the influence of drink," had formed a barrier between supporters of the Linfield team, which has a tradition of having only Protestant players, and Donegal Celtic, a team based in a Catholic neighbourhood of

One Linfield supporter got onto the field and attacked a Celtic player, said police, and "serious public disorder" continued in Donegal Celtic's area, where police were pelted with a heavy barrage of bottles and

### THE Daily Crossword by Bernice Gordon



Alf e.g. Where to rea Fat Count start Eastern gulf Hernando de --School dance 15 Where bluebirds fly 21 Anatomical

heroine 57 Dialect 58 Crow 59 About nine inches 60 "To wit" in 63 Piquant 64 Lumber DÓWN 1 Spot for an earning 2 USSR range

45 Clamor 46 Hilo terrace 48 Inhibit

52 N.B. word 56 Operatio

51 Oriental prefix

— down! 26 Church 29 Taps gently 30 Of the mood 31 Koyacs 32 Opinion

MERO TARSI BRAY
NEVERDISUDDAY
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SUNDAYSITETCE
ODIN ERMIE COAT
LEVI BESAN JOLE
DITET RENT ELEE

**GOREN BRIDGE** 

43 Gretuity 44 High-hat 47 Feeling 0

the other.

50 Number one 51 Faction 53 Yes — (choice

dummy and, since he could count 12

tricks if the king of clubs were on-

side, immediately ran the queen of

clubs. West took the king and perse-

vered with diamonds. Now declar-

er's 12th trick would have to come

from spades, and there are those

who would peer at the beavens for

inspiration before closing their eyes

and taking the finesse one way or

of them would guess right. The oth-

er 50 percent would blame their

horoscopes for being out of kilter.

much as possible about the hand. Declarer cashes out all the winners

in the three non-vital suits. In the

process South learns that West start-

ed with six diamonds, two clubs and

no hearts. Therefore. West has five

spades and East only two. The odds

have increased dramatically from 50 percent—West suddenly has be-

come a 5-to-2 favorite to hold the

So declarer leads a spade to the

ten and, when that holds, he claims his slam. Declarer has simply heed-

ed two key principles: Do not com-

mit yourself to a line earlier than

necessary; and count the enemy dis-

tribution to find a chie about how to

tackle the crucial suit

The expert sets out to learn as

If the odds held true, exactly half

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

Neither vulnerable. South deals. NORTH OK83 0072 **4** Q J 10 8 WEST ♠ Q 8 6 5 2 ▽ Void ○ J 10 9 8 4 3 EAST **★** 73 ♥ J 10 9 6 5 4 2

SOUTH ♥ A Q 7 4 A 9 6 2 The bidding: South West North East

2 0 6 NT Pass Pass 2 NT Pass Opening lead: Jack of & Some people dread a two-way finesse, claiming they always go

wrong. The expert loves it, because by the time he commits himself it is no longer a pure guess! South's sequence showed a balanced hand of 23-24 points—he added a point for all four aces. Af-

ter an initial waiting response with a good hand, North bid its full value as soon as he learned what partner

Declarer won the opening lead in

The police said officers got riot shields and charged fans in the Donegal Celtic area, to keep from being overrun by the crowd, and had to fire plastic bullets "to repel the sustained attack."

FLO ACHE AMDK ALAR THANK BANE EERD TARSI BRAY

## Lendl beats McEnroe, reaches Skydome final

numebr one Ivan Lendl left little doubt about his superiority as he pounded former number one John McEnroe 6-3, 6-2 late Saturday to reach the final of the \$1.2 million Skydome world tennis tournament.

Lendl will meet the winner of the other semifinal match between second-seeded Brad Gilbert and his fellow-American Tim Mayotte, the sixth seed.

McEnroe marked his 31st birthday Friday but there was nothing to celebrate in his effort against Lendl.

The bottom line is he kicked my butt...," the third-seeded McEnroe said. "You cannot allow yourself to miss shots that shouldn't be in your vocabulary and it is right now. It's pretty

disgraceful, really."

The hard-hitting Lendl, 29, increased his career edge over McEnroe to 18-15 as he won for the seventh time in their last eight

"What can I do about that?" said the top-seeded Lendl, when

RUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Top-seed Boris Becker beat

Swede Magnus Gustafsson 6-4,

7-6, and Carl-Uwe Steeb finished off Czech Miloslav Mecir 6-2, 6-3

late Saturday to set up an all-

West German final at the

\$600,000 Belgian Indoor cham-

Becker, ranked second in the

world, overcame lapses of con-

centration in the second set with

his brand of power tennis to reach his first final this season.

Steeb, who already beat Beck-

er in Sydney earlier this year,

rolled over Olympic champion Mecir and turned what could

have been a tough battle of base-

line play into an exhibition of his

forceful strokemaking. The

match took little more than an

Becker, improving throughout the week-long ATP cham-

pionship series event, imposed

his play throughout the first set

and seemed on his way to an easy

win when Gustafsson suddenly

got a chance to come back into

"With the pressure off, my

concentration suffers and it

brings out my weaknesses," said

Becker, the U.S. Open and

It showed early in the second

set and Gustafsson profited, rac-

ing to a 5-2 lead, on the merits of

one break, getting the 3,000-

strong crowd at the Forest

to the third set," said the Swede,

"I was already looking forward

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This

is one of those days when you can

get out and sell yourself and your ideas with far greater ease than

usual. The cooperation of others in

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A newcomer will bring fascinating new inspiration into your life.

Helping your mate in a practical matter is the best way to show your

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) New ideas of a beneficial nature

will now be more helpful to you. A trip with a family member can gain

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) An

influential outside man has good ideas for better business success for

you. Not stirring up tension with your attachment will save a big

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Your most practical assist-

ance now will come from an older

man of judgement. Get your busi-

ness affairs organised now in con-

junction with one experienced.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Older

friends will now bring you con-

siderable happiness at your dwell-

ing. A serious talk with your

for greater future accord.

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

ment now will open the way

results that all do desire.

joint ventures is easier too.

National Hall on his side.

Wimbledon champion.

hour.

Becker, Steeb move to

final of Belgian Indoor

TORONTO (R) - World asked if he missed the old, more penetrating McEnroe. "I can't pick up his game, he has to do it himself. I could lower my game, but I'm not going to do it."

Lendl toyed with a fairly sub-

dued McEnroe in the one-hour 16-minute match. Both players argued about bad calls and snubbed umpire Rudolf Berger after the match. "I can't say anything about the calls, you'll have to ask the ATP

guys, because we're not allowed to say what we think," Lendl "I got out of Eastern Europe 10 years ago. Now I'm back into Communism and it's something called the ATP tour." McEnroe's touch game stood no chance against Lendl's fero-

cious power. For McEnroe to beat Lendl his serves have to be well-disguised and lethallyplaced, otherwise Lendl is able to rifle his return of serves past the American at will.

"John had lost the edge from the game," Lendl said. "His second serve is not so penetrating and his volley is not so crisp.'

ranked 36th in the world.

best," said Becker.

decider 7-4.

Becker, however, came back

switching into a higher gear, and

allowed Gustafsson only one

point on the Swede's remaining

service games and confidently

won his own to take a 6-5 lead.

'Under pressure I produce my

But again Becker was fooled by

the comfortable situation, and

Gustafsson forced a tiebreak

when he scored a love-game on

Becker's serve with risky shots.

Becker did enough to win the

In the second semifinal, scrap-

mes, as Mecir and Steeb, 15th

py play marked the opening

in the world rankings, quickly exchanged breaks. But only

Steeb changed his ways.
"When you play from the base-

line you have to be in good

Mecir piled up two dozen un-

forced errors in the opening set,

never stretching the mobile Steeb, who completed the first set

On Saturday, Mecir's letharpic

Steeb, 22, again broke Mecir's

style was not deceptive, he was

slower, as Steeb's energetic

first service game of the second

set but was more secure on his

own. He quickly gained a 5-1 lead

before reaching his second final

Noah in the Sydney ATP event

Sunday's winner in the ATP

event takes home \$77,500.

Be sure you carry through with the

promises that you have made to

LIRRA: (September 23 to October

22) Make sure everything is in its right place in your home. Take

your loved one to any amusements

or recreations you have planned

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) Much discussion with

friends for increasing your income can be very heipful now. Don't let your attachment be aware of any of the doubts that are assailing you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) A day to get all your

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) All kinds of valuable

information is at your fingertips if you ask for it. Now is your time to investigate all phases of two pro-

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Seeing and being with

friends and your attachment at

outside recreations could be

wonderful for both of you and

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is the time to invite all

persons who are important to you

into your home at this time. Older and

serious friends will aid you with

any duties willingly.

rojects in a beneficial condition. Concentrate on doing as many nice things and giving gifts to your

He lost to France's Yannick

groundstroke winners proved.

shape," said Steeb.

in half an hour.

of the season.

last month.

vour attache

for you both.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation



McEnroe called ATP trainer Bill Norris onto the court after the fifth game of the first set due to a strained muscle above the groin. McEnroe said the injury made him a little tentative, but would not use it as an excuse.

The outcome seemed settled after Lendi broke to go ahead 5-3 in the first set when McEnroe netted a backhand half-volley. Leading 4-0 in the second set, Lendl saved McEnroe from total embarrassment when he sailed a backhand long in the fifth game,

allowing McEnroe to hold serve.

McEuroe held serve at love in the seventh game of the final set, but by then it was just too late.

## Navratilova into Chicago final

CHICAGO (AP) — Martina Navratilova used her big serve and strong passing shots Saturday to defeat her former doubles partner, Pam Shriver, and reach the finals of the Virginia Slims of Chicago tennis tournament.

The top-seeded Navratilova coasted to a 6-4, 6-3 victory at the Illinois-Chicago pavilion.

Navratilova has now beaten

Shriver 25 consecutive times since losing to her at the 1982 U.S. Open, and holds an overall 35-3 edge over the eighth-seeded Balt-

Navratilova got in 82 per cent of her first serves and repeatedly kept her opponent off balance with forehand smashes deep to the corners, while Shriver feebly tried to return with lobs.

At one point, Shriver complained about the officiating and asked whether one line judge could see the court.

serve too, because Martina is just deadly returning second serves, she said. Shriver failed to hold service in

the seventh game of the second set, falling behind 4-3. She lost all four points, including two straight double faults. "The seventh was the key,"

up 30-0."

imore player.

Navratilova, trying for her 10th Chicago Slims title since 1975, will meet the winner of Saturday night's semifinal match between defending champion Zina Garrison, the number two seed, and fifth-seeded Manuela Maleeva.

"Why don't you get a little further away, like maybe by the popcorn machine," said Shriver. Navratilova said her right knee almost buckled running down a lob in the last set.

"Maybe it's old age, but it really hurts," Navratilova said. Shriver, who double faulted three times in the final set said she was forced to overplay her

"I have to go for a big second

cortex detonating fuses).

said Shriver, "especially when you consider I could have gone

# Kuwait pulls down sports posters that roused Saudi association KUWAIT (AP) — Knwait Sun-day took down almost all the defeat by Kuwait. Kuwait and the participants to persuade Saudi Arabia to join the

posters carrying the Gulf Cup soccer tournament emblem that prompted Saudi Arabia to pull its soccer team from the competi-

Sources said a high-level Kuwaiti delegation was planning to visit Riyadh to soothe ruffled feathers and try to convince the Sandis to send their team.

Saudi Arabia's Football Association Thursday announced it had decided not to take part in the tournament played every two years with six other Arab nations - Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Oatar, the United Arab Emirates and Iraq.
The Saudi announcement came

five days before the tournament was due to start Feb 20. The first Saudi statement did not give a reason for the action, prompting speculation of security fears.

But Saturdy, the Saudi association said it objected to the emblem of the tournament car-

The emblem was the horses Emiyan and Shouwayma — two horses considered vital in a battle in the 1920s in which Kuwait

repulsed an invasion from Saudi Arabia. History has it that the two Arab stallions ridden by Kuwaitis broke through the siege lines and brought back vital armed rein-

The confrontation involved two leading members of the royal houses in both states. The head of the football association in Kuwait is Sheik Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah, a brother of the emir, Sheik Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. The Saudi association is led by Prince Feisal Bin Fahd, the son of

the Saudi monarch. The issue of the emblem is the most controversial subject of the

competition 10-year history and overshadowed debate over the skills of the teams participating. "Every effort is being made by

six other Arab nations," said a Gulf sports official preparing for the tournament. He spoke on

conditions of anonymity. The posters carrying the emblem began coming off hotel walls and city streets hours before the Saudi Football Association issued its explanation, indicating that contacts had already been made between the neighbours.

Relations have long been marked by an unstated rivalry that is frequently visible in sports tournaments.

The last Gulf Cup tournament in 1988 was hosted by Riyadh. A Kuwaiti, protesting a referee ruling, slapped the face of an ace Saudi player and brought the match to a standstill for 10 minutes till the situation was brought under control.

Last week, a Gulf volleyball. competition hosted by the Saudis saw the spectators jeering the Kuwaiti team throughout. The-Kuwaitis won the contest

## Yugoslavia wary of own potential

By Mladen Jergovic

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia, the first European qualifiers for the World Cup finals, will arrive in Italy determined to shake off their reputation as a team who always fail to realise their potential in major tournaments.

Having romped through a group which also contained Scot-land, France, Norway and Cyprus, they should be full of confidence for their opening round meetings with West Germany, Colombia and the United Arab Emirates.

But, as their realistic and cautious national coach Ivica Osim admitted, it may not work out that way.

"We probably surprised everyone, including ourselves, and now it will be very difficult not to fall into our usual routine - to disappoint when it's most important," he said.

Yugoslavia's unbeaten quaiifying record secured entry to their eighth World Cup finals. It will be their first appearance since 1982 when they were first round casualties in Spain.

Their best performances were in 1930, when they reached the semifinals in Montevideo, and 1962, when they finished fourth in Chile. In each case, typically, they followed their success by failing to qualify for the next two finals series.

One of the chief reasons for Yugoslavia's inconsistency has been the constant exodus of all their top players. Yugoslavia has a reputation as the "Brazil of Europe" for producing naturallyskilled players, but most of them move abroad to the rich professional leagues of Western

Osim, who took over in October 1986, decided that, unlike most of his predecessors, he would recall as many as possible of his 'emigres' for major internationals. It has paid off.

Although Yugoslavia failed to

qualify for the 1988 European championship finals in West Germany, they formed into a powerful, skilful and exciting team in time for the World Cup qualifiers with up to nine foreign-basec players in the side.

Osim plans to continue to include such men as 34-year out Paris SG striker Safet Susic and at least seven of his colleagues who play in France, Belgium, Switzer land, Italy, Spain and West Ger-They will be joined on domes-

tic star midfielder Dragan Storkovic, 25, who is set to leave Red Star Belgrade after the finals and join Marseille for a reported transfer fee of \$7 million

Osim is also likely to draft in several of the youngsters who shone during Yugosiavia's triumph at the 1987 World Youth Championship. He selected some for the team in the final matches of last year.

## Manchester's most successful club

LONDON (R) - Fans of Old- they trounced West Ham 6-0 in was the most successful in the greater Manchester area - until

relegation from the first division. their second division neighbours are going through a rare golden

Unbeaten in 33 matches on their controversial artificial pitch at Boundary Park, they effectively secured their first cup final appearance Wednesday when

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO., LTD.

Invitation To Tender No. 30F/89

JPMC announces the invitation to re-

bidding tender No. (30F/89) for

2,000,000 metres (two million metres of

The tender documents are available at

JPMC offices in Amman supply depart-

ment, application for documents should

be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee

of JD (35) for each set of tender docu-

ments, free of charge documents will be

made available to those bidders partici-

The closing date for submission tender is

12.00 hours local time Monday March 5,

**Wasef Azar** 

able to drag that their soccer club semifinal match. this season.

As high-spending Manchester United and City struggle to avoid

They have had 96 years to prepare for their first cup final and have not been in the first division since 1923 but "the Lactics" are still on course for an amazing cup double — a feat no other Manchester team can hope for this season.

## To get that far they had aiready beaten champion Arsenal and

first division high flyers South-

And on Saturday in the fifth round of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup they kept alive their hopes of a second trip to Wembley by holding last year's losing finalists Everton to a 2-2 draw.

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through a correspondence school that you don't have to work for a your degree. Some people confuse "priony degree mills" with regularization Schools. If you are one of these people don't read any turnier ICS is looking for people who take their education SERIOUSEN and the attending a traditional college or studying by mail. We are looking for people who apply themselves and work hard to get the full value of the maning that its offers. Diplamas and Degrees are issued upon successful completion of a course accredited by the National Home Study Council, your guarantee of a quarty cation. If you take your education semasts and want to train for a new called the manuscript with the Study Council in your present with ICS may have the region from the your possibles for advancement on your present job. ICS may have the improve your job shills for advancement on your present job. ICS may have the right career training for you. Choose from 45 career courses listed below. So not the one career field you would like to train for and indicate that choose in the 124 poin below. Cut out this ad and mail it to ICS TODAY. We will send you a 174 accourse outline and turbon schedule by return Air May. There is no obligation. SEND FOR FREE FACTS—NO OBLIGATION International Correspondence Schools, Great F.C. .
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# Japan's LDP set to win stable majority in polls

Prime Minister Kaifu, fighting

for his political life both against

the opposition and against powerful barons within his own

party, was one of the first pro-

jected winners Sunday night,

along with his main rival, Japan Socialist Party (JSP) chairwoman

So too were former Prime

Ministers Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Noboru Takeshita and Sosuke

Uno - all three tainted by the

corruption and sex scandals

which in 1989 threatened to bring

an ignominious end to the LDP's

The three men, together with other prominent LDP candidates

implicated in the Recruit "shares

for favours" affair and other cor-

ruption cases, had said they

looked to the electorate to

cleanse them of blame and give

away at the scandals and at the

huge sums — a reported \$210 million — the LDP spent on its

The opposition had hammered

them a new political virginity.

34 years of unbroken rule.

Takako Doi.

TOKYO (R) — Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is likely to have won a stable majority of at least 271 seats in the 512-member lower house of parliament in Sunday's election, Kyodo News Service projected.

Kyodo issued the projection minutes after it, the Public Broadcasting Network NHK and the Financial News Agency Jiji Press all said that their separate computer projections showed the LDP achieving at least a bare majority of 257 seats. NHK projected an LDP total

of about 260 seats. It said the LDP was projected to win 230 seats out of the 431 seats to be determined by Sunday midnight. Of the 81 seats to be counted Monday, it predicted the ruling party would win at least 30, making a grand total of about

The opposition Japan Socialist Party was set to win about 130 scats, substantially up from the 85 it had in the outgoing chamber, NHK said.

But the LDP victory was mainly at the expense of the smaller opposition parties who were not doing as well as the JSP, the network said.

Many analysts at the start of the campaign two weeks ago be-lieved the scandal-ridden LDP could fail to retain power, even with the help of conservative inyear. Public anger over the tax was seen as a key factor in the LDP's stunning defeat in elections last July for the less powerful upper

campaign which rarely rose above the lacklustre, voters seemed above all to have accepted Kaifu's main argument — that the divided opposition parties were

not competent to govern.

Kaifu reserved his main fire for the JSP, charging that they intended to carry out socialist revolution and destroy Japan's phenomenal economic success.

It seemed that voters paid heed to his message.

About 71 per cent of Japan's 90 million eligible voters cast ballots Sunday, slightly more than voted in 1986 when the LDP won 295 lower house seats in a landslide

The fine, sunny weather over most of Japan was seen helping swell the turnout, and with it the ruling party's chances.

Among those voting early in the capital was Kiko Kawashima, a 23-year-old graduate student who in June will lose her commoner status — and along with it her right to vote - when she They had also tried to make marries Prince Aya, second son further capital from the unpopu- of Emperor Akihito and Empress larity of a three per cent sales tax Michiko.

# Opposition asks for new elections in Comoros

MORONI (R) — The Comoro Islands' first free elections began in turmoil Sunday when seven opposition presidential candidates called for the immediate resignation of the country's interim president and the suspension of the polls.

The opposition candidates held a crisis meeting after it was found the indelible ink to be used to mark voters' fingers to prevent them from voting twice rubbed off easily and many polling stations lacked ballot papers for all eight candidates.

The eighth candidate is president said Mohamed Djohar, who became interim head of state after the assassination of President Ahmed Abdallah last November and a three-week

under the control of white inerce-

Djohar, who is backed by the Comoros' ruling establishment, was not immediately available for

Three hours after voting was due to have started many polling stations on the main island of Grande Comore had either failed to open or had opened briefly and then closed because of the irregularities exposed.

Officials of the National Electoral Commission, an organisation set up to supervise the poll, said the situation was similar in the two other islands, Anjouan and Moheli.

The seven opposition candi-

dates issued a communique calling for the immediate resignation of Djohar, the cancellation of Sunday's poll and the organisation of a fresh presidential election within eight days.

They called for a member of the supreme court to organise the new poll in agreement with the presidential candidates.

The communique was signed by Mohammad Taki and Abbas Djoussouf, both widely tipped as leading contenders for the election, and five other candidates. Asked what the opposition

would do if Djohar refused to resign and suspend the election, Taki replied: "We are able to stop the election taking place throughout the territory of the nation." He did not elaborate. | December 1987.



## Czech communist party purges 22

PRAGUE (Agencies) — Former President Gustav Husak and 21 others have been ousted from the Communist Party and accused of blocking development and discrediting socialism during their te-

nure over Czechoslovakia. The official news agency CTK, quoting from an announcement released after a central committee meeting, said those expelled Saturday were "responsible for

wrong political decisions."

CTK, quoting the official announcement, said the 22 dropped from the party "contributed to a situation where the ideas of socialism are quite discredited in a considerable part of the popula-

They "participated in pursuing the undemocratic directive system of management that ... paralysed the internal life of the party and its capability to tackle effectively the questions of the development of society and helped estrange the people from the party," CTK said, quoting the state-

The expulsions were proposed by a commission attempting to establish responsibility for Czechoslovakia's economic and political problems. The party said Husak had "un-

deniable merits" but said he was being expelled for "his comprehensive responsibility for the political development, mainly in the past ten years."

Husak, installed as party chief in 1969 following the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia in august 1968, was replaced as head of the party by Milos Jakes in

But husak continued as President of Czechoslovakia, a post he lost during the country's peaceful revolution to the hitherto bestknown Czechoslovak dissident playwright Vaclav Havel.

POLAND

Hayel became Czechoslovak president on Dec. 29, 1989. Also purged Saturday was Lubomir Strongal, who had resigned as premier Oct. 11, 1988 following criticism inside the Communist party. He was re-placed by Ladislav Adamec, who now leader of the declining

Communist party. Adamec told the Central Committee Session earlier Saturday that up to 30 per cent of the party's 1.7 million members had left its ranks since Nov. 17, 1989. which marked the start of the peaceful revolution that swept the Communists from power.

The Communist party, without a majority in the government and in parliament, will face an uphill battle in the first free elections tentatively scheduled for June 8.

Less than three months ago, the Communist party had a guaranteed monopoly on power enshrined in Czechoslovakia's constitution and Adamec was still prime minister.

The brutal suppression of a student demonstration in central prague Nov. 17 triggered mass protests that led to the communists being ousted from power.

Jakes and Prague party boss Miroslav Stepan both denied ordering the police action Nov. 17. But they lost their jobs and were quickly expelled from the party, as was former chief ideologist Vasil Bilak.

## Mongolian opposition party proclaimed

ULAN BATOR (R) - A politic December. al group seeking to smash Mon-golia's 69-year-old Communist system proclaimed itself the nation's first opposition political

party Sunday.

"Long live the Mongolian
Democratic Party," shouted leader Dogmidyn Sosorbarm to a standing ovation from 500 nation-wide delegates gathered for a first congress inside a large Ulan Bator auditorium.

The party has grown out of the Mongolian Democratic Association, which has staged public railies since its inception last December and frequently criticised the Communist Party for causing an "economic and spiritual crisis," in Mongolia.

Western diplomats here have said the democracy movement poses the most serious threat ever to the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party.

They said the movement had grown rapidly since December and appeared to be gathering

Strained relations with the U.S. improved slightly after the second of two controversial visits to China by U.S. National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, last

one-party political system more

But the island's ruling Com-

munist Party, headed by Presi-

dent Fidel Castro, says it has no

intention of following its Soviet

counterpart to multi-party poli-

Significant internal reforms un-

veiled by the party Central Com-

mittee Saturday will seek to re-

vitalise Cuba's political institu-

tions by making them more effi-

cient and more in touch with the

While the initiative is clearly

response to the political and eco-

nomic reforms in Eastern

front page of the party daily

The declaration marks a part-

ing of ways between the Cuban

party and its counterpart in the

Soviet Union, Cuba's main poli-

tical ally, which this month scrap-

ped its monopoly of power, paving the way for multi-party demo-

To strengthen its position, Cuba's Communist Party wants

to improve all the country's poli-

tical institutions, from the Cen-

tral Committee down to the

neighbouring committees for the

The Central Committee state-

ment talked of "strengthening

links with workers' groups, youth

- especially students -

peasants, intellectuals and the whole nation grouped in its mass:

organisations."

The initiative appeared aimed at heading off criticism that the

party and its institutions had be-

come bureaucratic and insensitive

to grievances about shortages and

Also significant was the sing-

defence of the revolution.

island's 10 million people.

xist-Leninist constitution.

responsive to the people.

But relations are still cool and President George Bush has been accused of "kowtowing" to

China was widely seen Saturday as scoring a diplomatic success for its endorsement of a future constitution, or basic law, for Hong Kong after the British colony reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

China and Britain had frequently sparred over the basic law since last June.

Hundreds of thousands of people marched through the streets of Hong Kong in protest against the June crackdown, and Beijing pointedly warned that the territory must not become a "base for subversion."

Some 610 delegates from all over this remote Asian state crowded into an auditorium to hear calls for an end to Mongolia's 69-year-old Communist system which one said made people "slaves of a monstrous state

The new party planned to vote later Sunday on whether to petition the nation's parliament for the politburo's resignation.

## Cuba heads towards reforms HAVANA (R) — Cuba, defiant but concerned about reforms sweeping Eastern Europe, wants to breathe new life into its 31-year revolution by making its

Fidel Castro

ling out of students as an important group with which the party should keep in touch.

The authorities have neither confirmed nor denied reports by human rights activists that several studens were arrested last month for criticising Castro

In the proposed reforms, the Central Committee called for a return to the values of the 1959 revolution led by Castro that toppled the right-wing dictatorship of Pulgencio Batista.

The party's fresh approach also Europe, its main point is to includes appointments to bring in youth and workers' leaders and ty's leading role as enshrined in the Caribbean Island's 1976 Mar-

military figures.
Pedro Ross, recently appointed head of the Cuban Workers Union, and Roberto Robaina, the Communist youth leader, were made substitute members of the party politburo.

"What we are talking about is the perfecting of a single, Lenin-ist party based on the principles of democratic centralism," the Central Committee said in a Two other party stalwarts, statement which covered the Lionel Soto and the younger Jaime Crombet, were made vice-presidents of the Executive Council of State headed by

> Army General Sixto Batista took over from a civilian the task of coordinating the committees for the defence of the revolution, which organise patriotic activities at grass-roots level and police against "counter-revolutionaries."

> The Central Committee offered no concrete solutions to Cuba's mounting economic problems. The country's sugar-based economy is being squeezed by a growing foreign debt and falling hard currency reserves while the changes in Eastern Europe threaten to disrupt its traditional economic relations.

Cuba receives vital oil, food, machinery and technical aid from the Soviet Union in exchange for sugar, nickel and fruit.
But the Central Committee

said experts in a restructured economic planning commission would tackle the problems.

### Close gets another honour

HANOVER New Hampshire (AP) — Actress Glenn Close scooped up another honour from a college, this time from the Dartmouth Film Society, joining Robert Redford and Lillian Gish as recipients of the organisation's award. "I hope I can keep doing the kind of work that werrants this overwhelming response," the actress said at Wednesday's ceremony at Dartmouth College. "It's deeply moving and I thank you from the bottom of my heart." Close, a five-time Academy Award nominee, made her film debut in 1982 in the World According to Garp. Since then, she has starred in such films as Fatal Attraction, and Dangerous Liaisons. Earlier Close had received the Woman of the Year award from Hasty Pudding Theatricals at Harvard Uni-

### Shoe sorter finds \$3,0<del>0</del>0 in shoe

FLORIDA-(AP) — A goodwill industries worker accustomed to finding change in donated shoes ran across one shoe with a bit more \$3,000. "I took one look at that and I said, 'ob, oh, oh,' said Fred Kuhrt, who has worked in a goodwill programme for the disabled for 20 years. The \$20 and \$50 bills were in several bank envelopes marked with the name Mrs. Henry Konarske and an address. Henry konarske, who is recuperating from a recent hernia operation, answered the tele-phone call from goodwill employees. He said his wife, martha, died recently, and he had donated some of her belongings. The goodwill employees told the 90vear-old retired postal worker about the cash. "I didn't know what to say," Konarske said. "It was a surprise to me, I didn't know anything about it. Until she got sick about two years ago, she took care of all the bills." Konarske said he and his niece have found \$7,000 in dressers and shoe boxes around the house since his wife's death.

### Connery caught for ~ speeding

SANTA BARBARA, (AP) – Actor Sean Connery was caught by police driving at high speeds along a scenic highway, a la James Bond. He has admitted guilt and paid a fine, authorities said, "007 did it. But unlike ZSA ZSA, he didn't fight with police," said Bob Calvert, Santa Barbara county chief trial deputy, Referring to Miss Gabor's conviction for slapping a Beverly Hills policeman who stopped her Rolls-Royce. Connery, through his attorney, Thursday paid a \$190 speeding ticket for going 131 kph when the limit was 88 kph. He was driving a rented 1989 Thun-derbird when he was caught along the two-lane highway 154 near the southern California town of-Solvang last Dec. 23. A California highway patrolman ticketed him for speeding and for driving without a license. The latter charge was dismissed after Connery's attorney showed the star had a British driver's license. Too bad he wasn't in an Austin Healy and got awasy with an oil slick or smoke screen," Calvert said. "All the secretaries in the office were going crazy. They wanted me to make sure that he appeared in court. I would've lost a whole day's work if he did." Connery, the first of four actors to play Bond, starred in "Indiana Jones and the last crusade," one of the top grossing movies of 1989 with \$196 million. His newest film, "the Hunt for Red Octo-

## Former rebel wins Filipino vote

MANILA (R) — A former mus-lim rebel leader now supported by the government claimed victory Sunday in violence-marred elections to choose the governor of an autonomous region in the southern Philippines.
Zacaria Candao, who is backed

by President Corazon Aquino's ruling coalition, led by a three-toone margin over local muslim strongman Ali Dimaporo, a former congressman and loyal follower of the late president Ferdinand Marcos.

An unofficial count gave Bandao 102,320 votes to Dimaporo's 34,559 in the four provinces which voted last November to join a predominantly muslim autonomous region on Mindanao Island. Nine other provinces in the area rejected the plan. Colonel Wilfredo Villanueva

the police commander for central Mindanao, said three suspected muslim rebels were killed Saturday when they snatched ballot boxes in buldon town.

Police in Masiu town, in nearby Lanao Del Sur province, said one man was killed when unidentified men opened fire during voting in Candao, a lawyer, joined the

'Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), an insurgent group fighting for muslim self-rule in Mindanao, in 1977 but returned to the government fold in 1985. He was later elected governor of Maguindanao province.

Also at stake in the polls were the post of vice-governor and 21 seats in a regional assembly.

The autonomous region, com-prising the provinces of Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao and Lanao Del Sur, wili retain 40 per cent of taxes collected in the area and draw up the region's economic policies. Manila remains in charge of defence and foreign

Separatist MNLF rebels, who had campaigned against the Manila government's autonomy offer,

ignored the polls. More than 50,000 people died at the height of the separatist war in the 1970s.

# Couple conceives baby in effort to save older daughter from cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A couple conceived a child in hopes the baby's bone marrow cells could save the life of a teen-age daughter who is dying of cancer, but ethics experts said the decision is outrageous

and troubling.
Such criticism means little to Abe Avala and his wife, Mary. They found out this week that despite one-in-four odds, their unborn baby girl will be a compatible bone marrow "stem cell" donor for their 17-year-old daughter, Amssa, who was diagnosed with leukemia two years ago.

"We've been searching for a donor for almost two years and we haven't been able to find anybody, so this is the only other alternative," Ayala said Friday. "We can't just stand idly by and do nothing about it and wait for Anissa to die."

The Ayalas live in Los Angeles with Anissa and a 19-year-old son, Airon. They were told that Anissa has a 70 per cent to 80 per cent chance of surviving if she receives a transplant of stem cells bone marrow cells that help produce various blood cells but no chance if she doesn't, her father said.

None of the Alayas have compatible marrow. So against the advice of Anissa's doctor and after years of resisting his wife's wish to have another child, the 45year-old Ayala had his vasectomy reversed last year. Mrs. Alaya, 43, is due to deliver a

baby girl in april. If not for Anissa's leukemia, "it's true we would have never had another baby this late." Ayala said.

"It is troublesome to say the least," medical ethics expert Philip Boyle said from the Hastings centre in Briarcliff Manor, New York "its outrageous that people would go to this length."

The ideal reason for having a child is associated with that child's own welfare - to bring a child into being and to nurture it," said Alexander Morgan Capron, a professor of law and medicine at the University of Southern California.

One of the fundamental precepts of ethics ... is that each person is an end in himself or herself, and is never to be used solely as a means to another person's ends without the agreement of the person being used," he said.

The baby can't consent to the transplant, and the parents face a conflict of interest in making the decision, the ex-

The Ayalas' baby "is not seen as an end in itself, but as a means to another end. The fact that the other end is laudable doesn't change that,"

Capron said. Anissa said she is "sort of. upset" by criticism of her parents, but "we're going to love our baby."

Mrs. Ayala said, "our baby is going to have more love than she probably can put up with." Leukemia is a cancer of white blood cells. Doctors use high-dose radiation and chemotherapy to kill diseased

bone marrow and blood cells. Then marrow from a matching donor, usually a sibling, is injected into the leukemia patient's bones so healthy stem cells from the marrow can produce healthy blood cells.

Ayala said his daughter's leukemia is now stable, and doctors expect she will be alive even if they have to wait until her baby sister is 6 months old, the youngest age at which mar-row can be transplanted.

However, Anissa's doctors at City of Hope national medical centre in suburban Duarte hope to make the marrow transplant unnecessary by obtaining stem cells from the baby's umbilical cord blood at the time of birth, a painless procedure, hospital spokes-man Charles Mathews said.

The doctors have said the baby faces little risk even if she is needed to donate marrow. The procedure requires the infant to be put under general anesthesia to block pain while needles are used to remove the

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Ortega proposes freeing jailed soldiers

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua's legislature will meet next Tuesday to discuss a request from president Daniel Ortega to free some 300 jailed soldiers, a spokesman for the national assembly said Saturday. The pro-government El Nuevo Diario newspaper said those to be freed were serving jail sentences for desertion, indiscipline, damage to military property and bad conduct. It quoted Sandinista officials as saying a pardon was likely to be apoproved on Tuesday by the Santinista-dominated assembly and the Sandinista soldiers coould be freed on Wednesday or Thursday, days before Feb. 25 general elections. About 60 soldiers accused of murder or high treason would not be released, the newspaper said. The Nicaraguan government last week released more than 1,000 jailed Contra rebels and members of ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza's national guard as a gesture of reconciliation before the elections. "We think that after freeing the last remnant of the national guard and the Contras, nothing is more just than to free former members of the (Sandinista) army who committed some faults," National Assembly Speaker Rafael Solis was quoted as saying by El Nuevo Diario.

### Fighting breaks out in San Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Fighting broke out between government troops and leftist rebels in three northern suburbs of the capital Saturday night, authorities said, blacking out the city as helicopters strafed the areas with bullets. At least two military helicopters could be seen circling the combat zones, and

machinegun fire indicated they were strafing presumed rebel positions. The sounds of fighting appeared to subside soon after the helicopters appeared. Bursts of machinegun fire and the thump of explosions could be heard in the capital a loud blast was followed immediately by a power outage. A government emergency official contacted by telephone said the fighting was centred around the neighbourhoods of San Antonio Abad, San Rammeon and San Luis at the foot of the San Salvador volcano that overlooks the capital. He said an early blast temporarily caused a power failure over much of the city. Lights came on again around midnight. During the fighting, which raged for 30 minutes, the sky was lit with flares lobbed by the army to

### Somalia's cabinet sworn in

MOGADISHU (R) - Members of Somalia's new cabinet, named last Thursday by President Mohammad Siad Barre, were sworn in Saturday night. Somalia had been without a government for more than a month, after the president dissolved the cabinet for failing to solve the country's economic and social problems. He later reappointed Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Samantar and instructed him to select a new cabinet. Several members of the former cabinet have been dropped and others reappointed. Among the new faces are the interior minister, Colonel Abdulkadir Haji Mohammad, formerly President Siad Barre's number two in the ruling party, and the foreign minister, Ahmed Jama Abdulla, former ambassador in London.

### iran avalanche kills 21

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) - An avalanche in western Iran killed at least 21 people and trapped 110 other under a blanket of snow, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported Sunday. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the avalanche occurred Friday afternoon in the Zanki doul mountains near Sar Dasht close to the Iraqi border. It quoted an unidentified local official as saying 79 of the local villagers trapped by the avalanche were later rescued alive and rescue workers continued to search for the remaining 31.

### Basques offer to end violence

PAMPLONA (R) — Basque separatists offered Saturday to end their campaign of violence and kidnappings if the government resumes talks broken off in Algiers last year. A communique issued in Bilbao by the Herri Batasuna (HB) party, political arm of the ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) group, said kidnappings like that of industrialist Adolfo Villoslada Martin, set free on Friday night, would cease. Villoslada, 49, was releasd unhurt by ETA after 84 days captivity, in exchange for a reported \$2.7 million ransom. "If the government is prepared to renew the Algiers dialogue this type of kidnapping and other armed acts by ETA could be avoided," the HB communique said. A change in Basque separatist attitudes was signalled earlier this week when two HB parliamentarians elect called at a news conference in Paris for renewed talks and said Villoslada could be released

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